

Archie
ADVENTURE
SERIES

NO. 89 US \$1.99
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THE WORLD'S MOST WAY PAST COOL COMIC!

SONIC



46977

THE HEDGEHOG

BESIEGED



SPRZ-HARV
JBA RAY

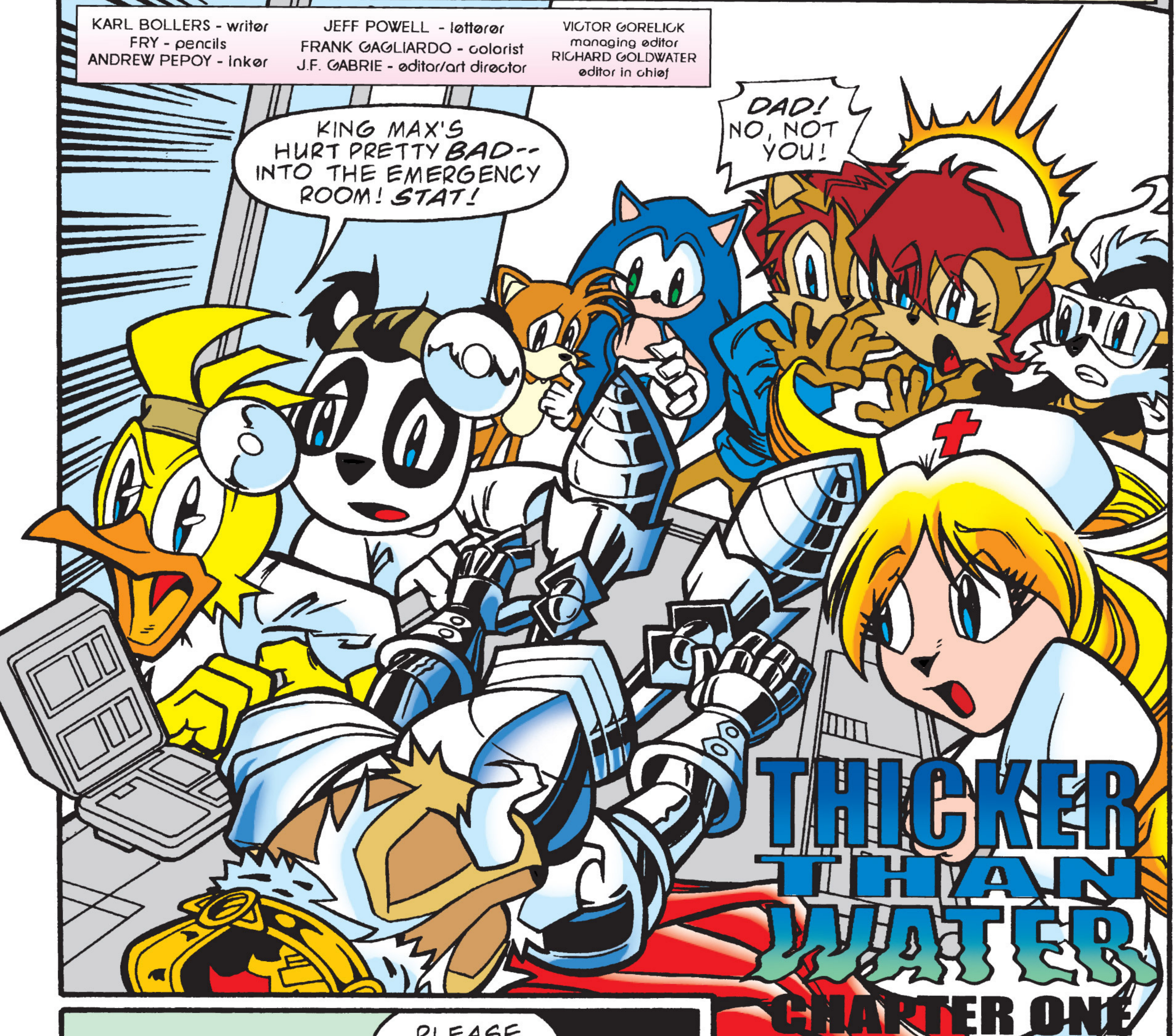


After ten long years, the iron-fisted rule of DOCTOR ROBOTNIK over planet MOBIUS was believed to have finally ended! With the technological tyrant vanquished and his polluted factories shut down, order and beauty were restored to the city of MOBOTROPOLIS. Now the villain has returned to wreak havoc once more, but there are many who are willing to stand against him in the fight for freedom. The bravest among them is a brash, blue streak who just happens to be the fastest thing alive! ARCHIE COMICS AND SEGA PRESENT... SONIC THE HEDGEHOG!

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**THICKER
THAN
WATER
CHAPTER ONE**



SONIC THE HEDGEHOG (issn:10705090), No. 89, Dec., 2000. Published monthly by Archie Comic Publications, Inc., 325 Fayette Avenue, Mamaroneck, NY 10543-2318. Richard H. Goldwater, President and Co-Publisher, Michael I. Silberkeit, Chairman and Co-Publisher. Single copies \$1.99 in the U.S.; \$2.19 in Canada. Subscription rate: U.S. \$23.88 for 12 issues; \$26.28 in Canada. All Canadian orders payable in U.S. funds. Sega is registered in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Sega, Sonic The Hedgehog and all related characters and indicia are trademark of SEGA. Sega of America Dreamcast, Inc., P.O. Box 7654, San Francisco, CA 94120-7654. © 2000 SEGA. All Rights Reserved. The product is manufactured under a license from Sega of America Dreamcast, Inc. Any similarities between characters, names, persons, and/or institutions in this book and any living, dead, or fictional characters, names, persons, and/or institutions are not intended and if they exist, are purely coincidental. Periodicals postage paid at the post office at Mamaroneck, New York and at additional mailing offices. Title registered in U.S. patent office. POSTMASTER, send address changes to SONIC THE HEDGEHOG, c/o Archie Comic Publications, Inc., 325 Fayette Avenue, Mamaroneck, NY 10543-2318. Printed in Canada



...I TRUSTED YOU TO PROTECT HIM. WHAT WENT WRONG?

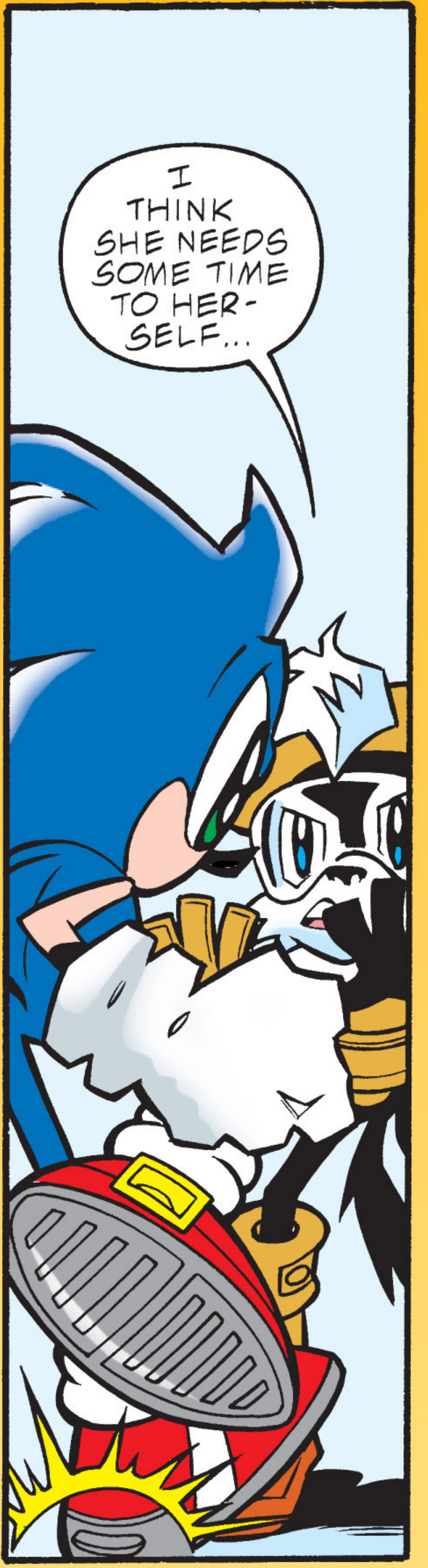


PRINCESS SALLY...SONIC HAD NO CHOICE OTHER THAN TO LEAVE THE KING'S SIDE--



SOB

SAL-- WAIT!



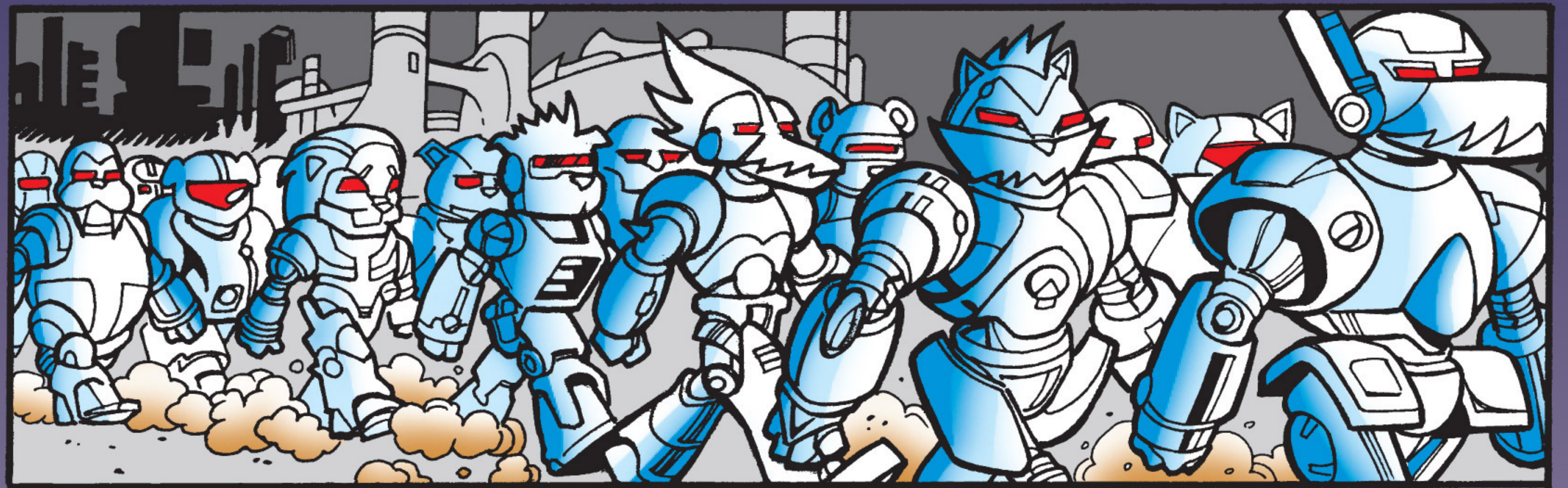
I THINK SHE NEEDS SOME TIME TO HER-SELF...



I THINK NOT!

REMAIN HERE-- I'LL SEE TO MY SISTER.

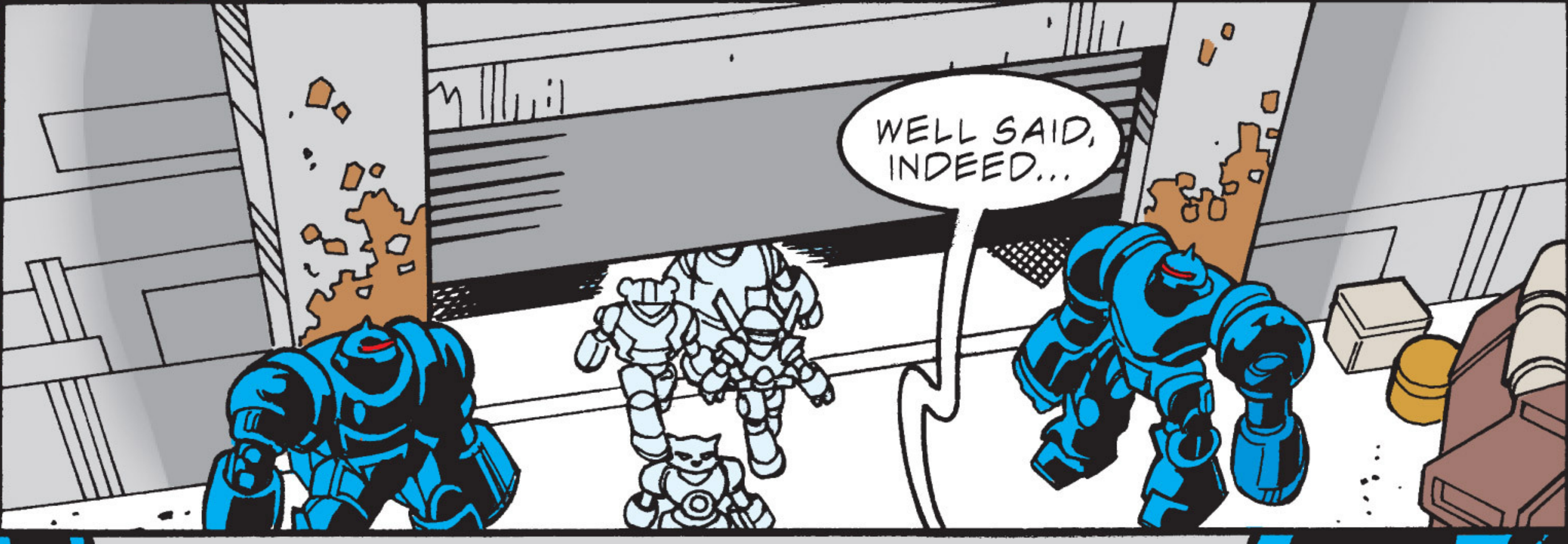
ROBOTROPOLIS...



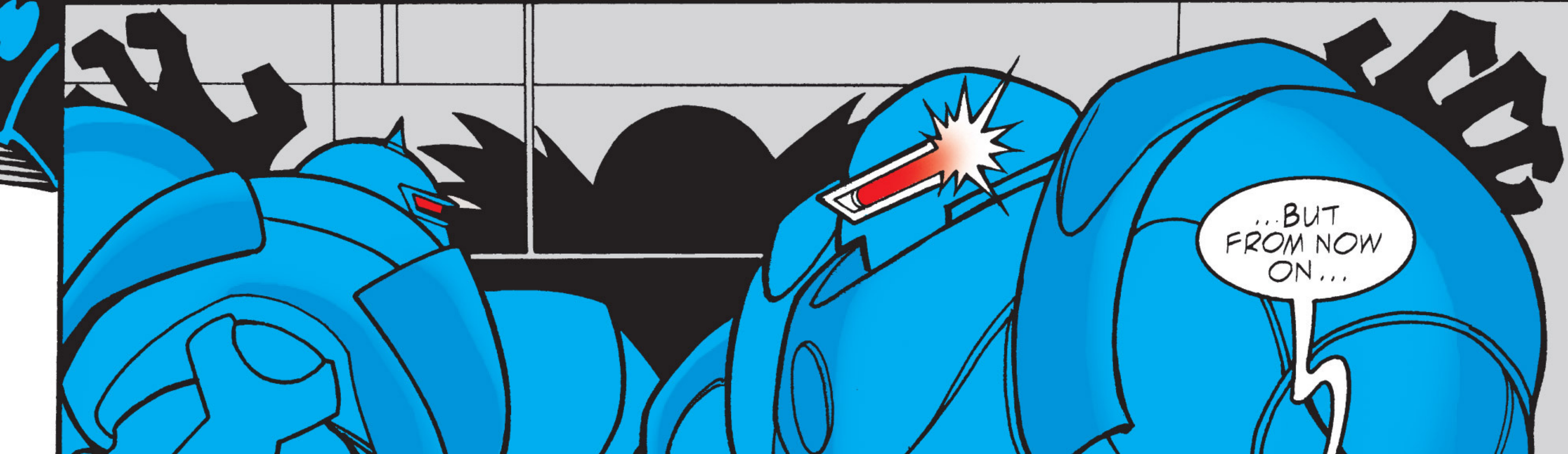
GET INSIDE!

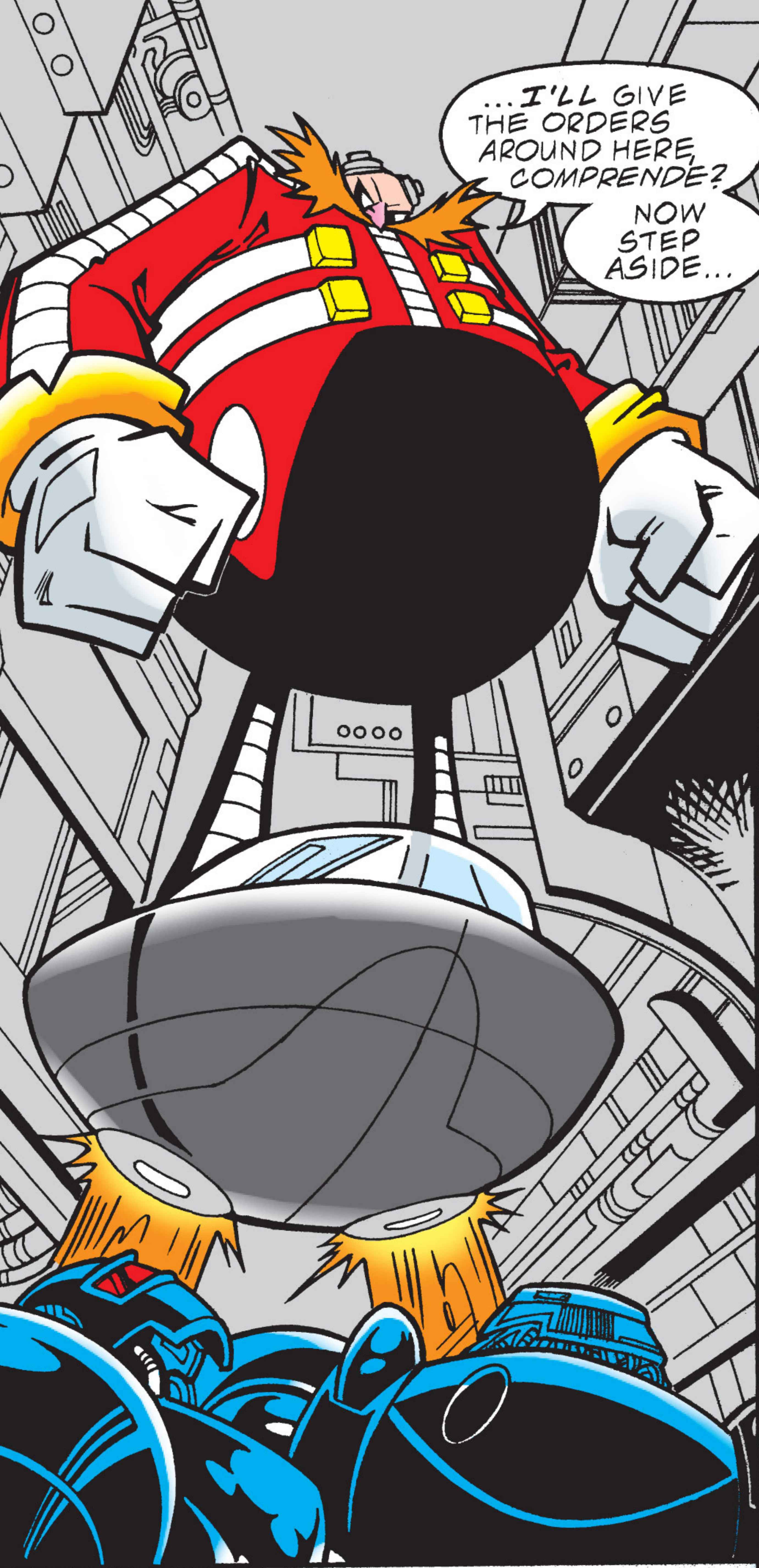


WELL SAID, INDEED...

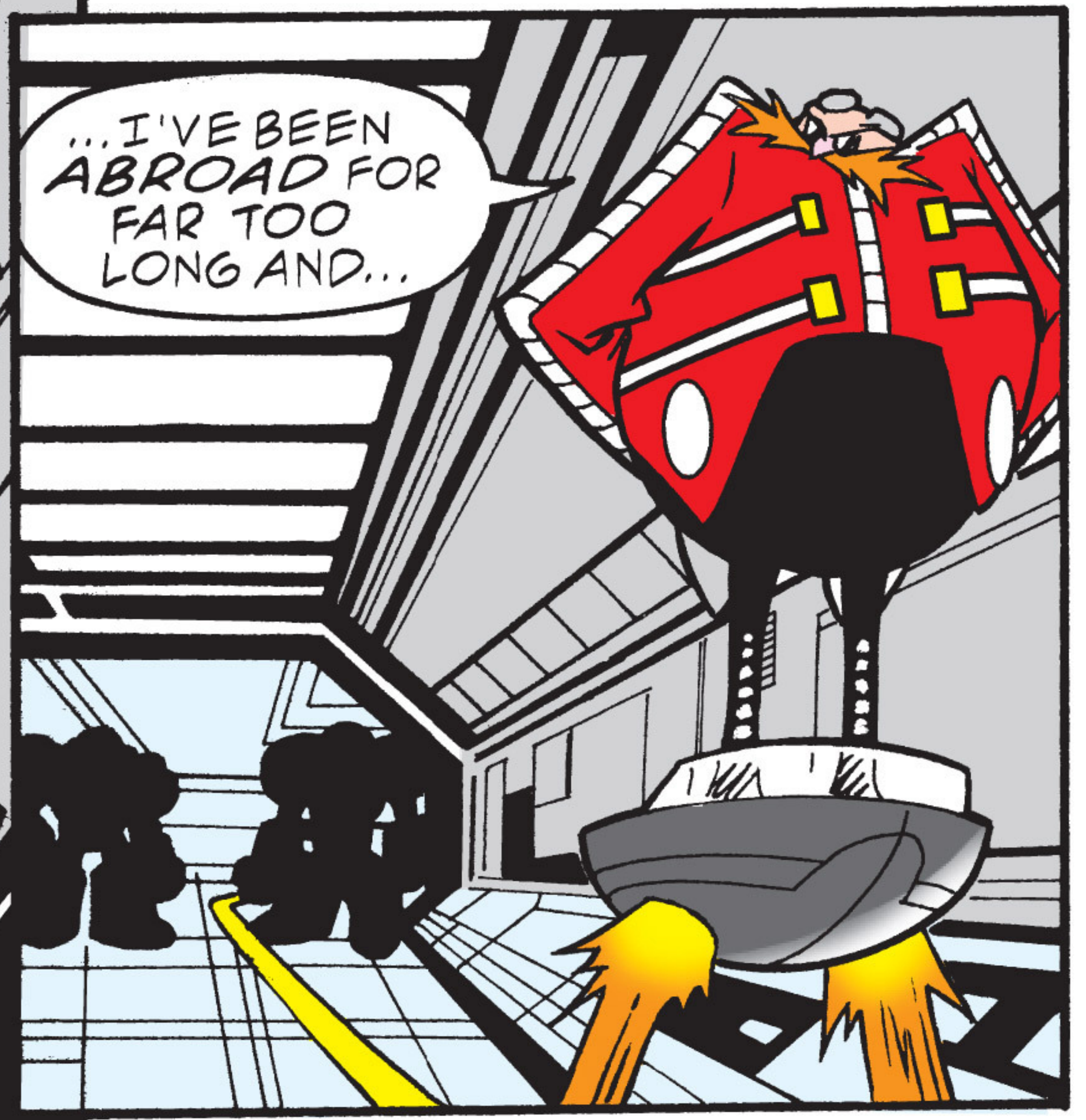


...BUT FROM NOW ON...

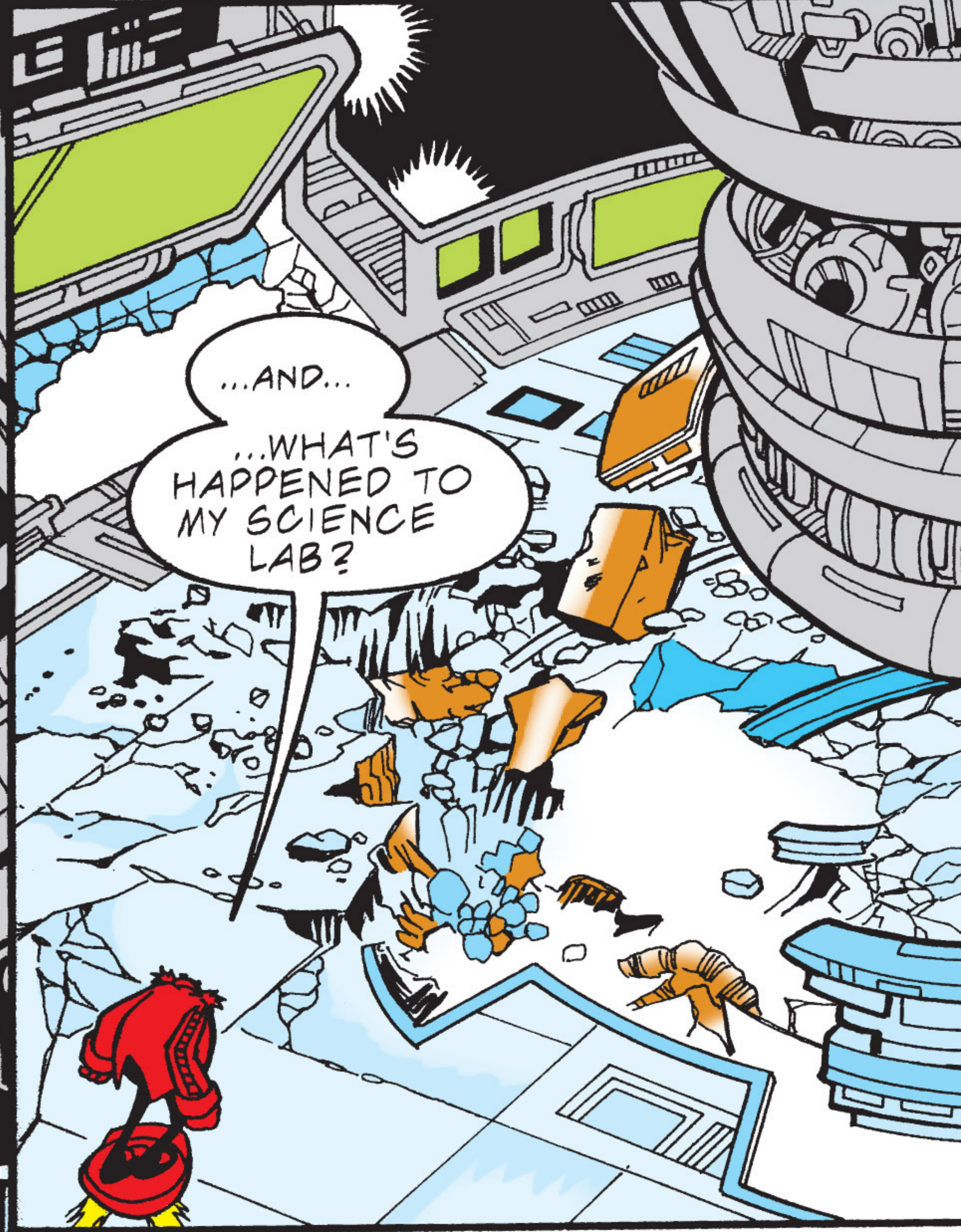




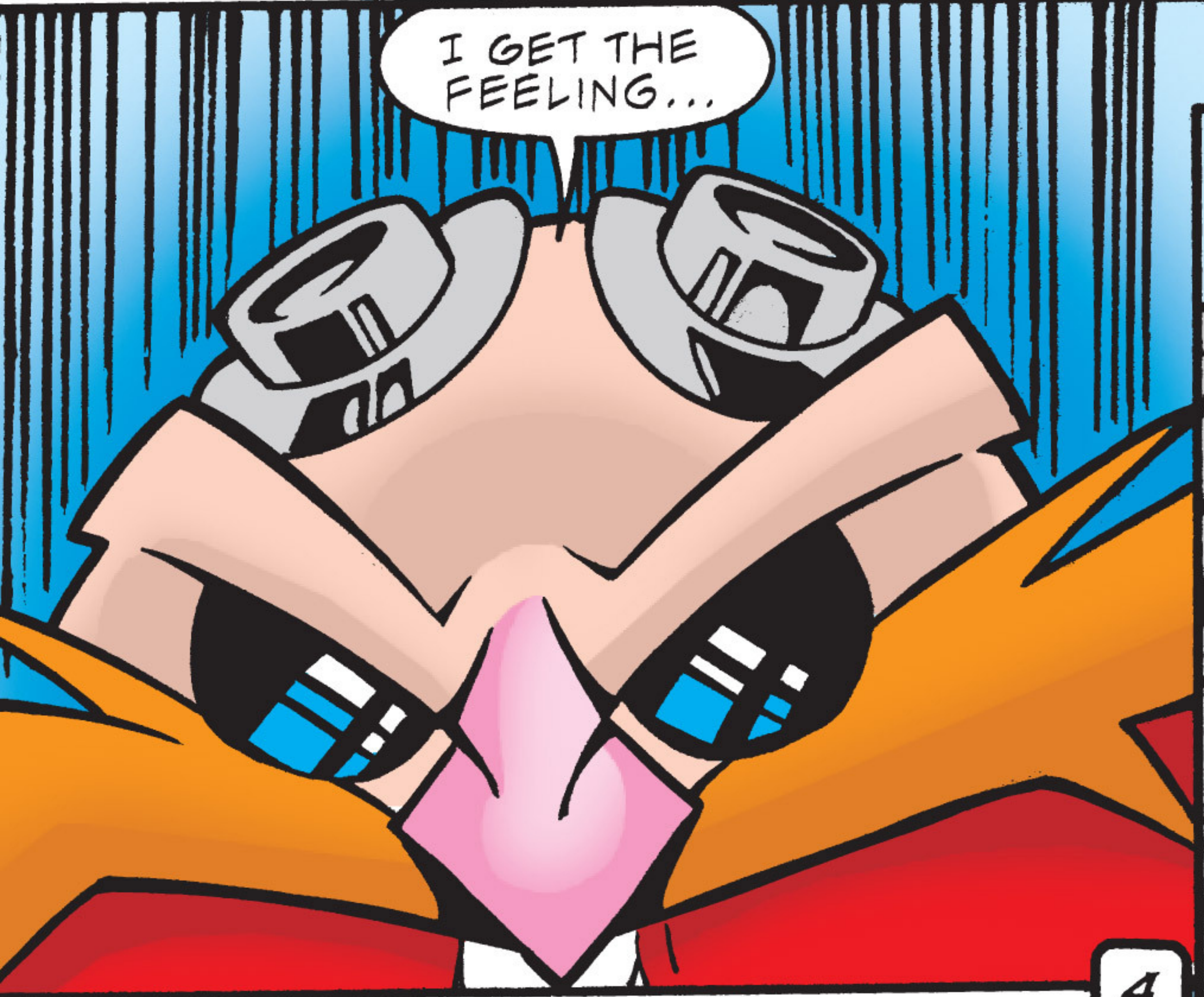
...I'LL GIVE THE ORDERS AROUND HERE, COMPRENDE?
NOW STEP ASIDE...



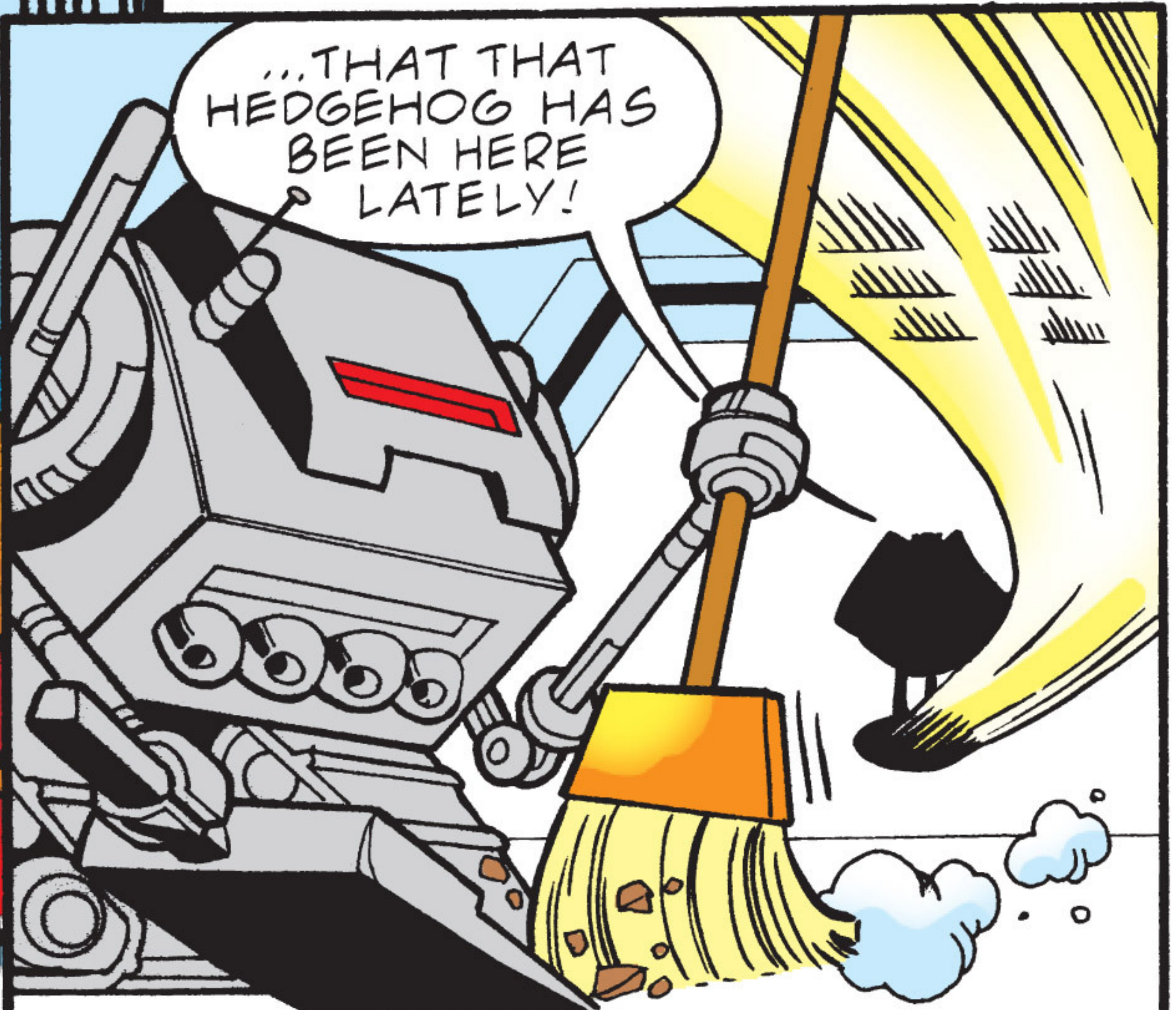
...I'VE BEEN ABROAD FOR FAR TOO LONG AND...



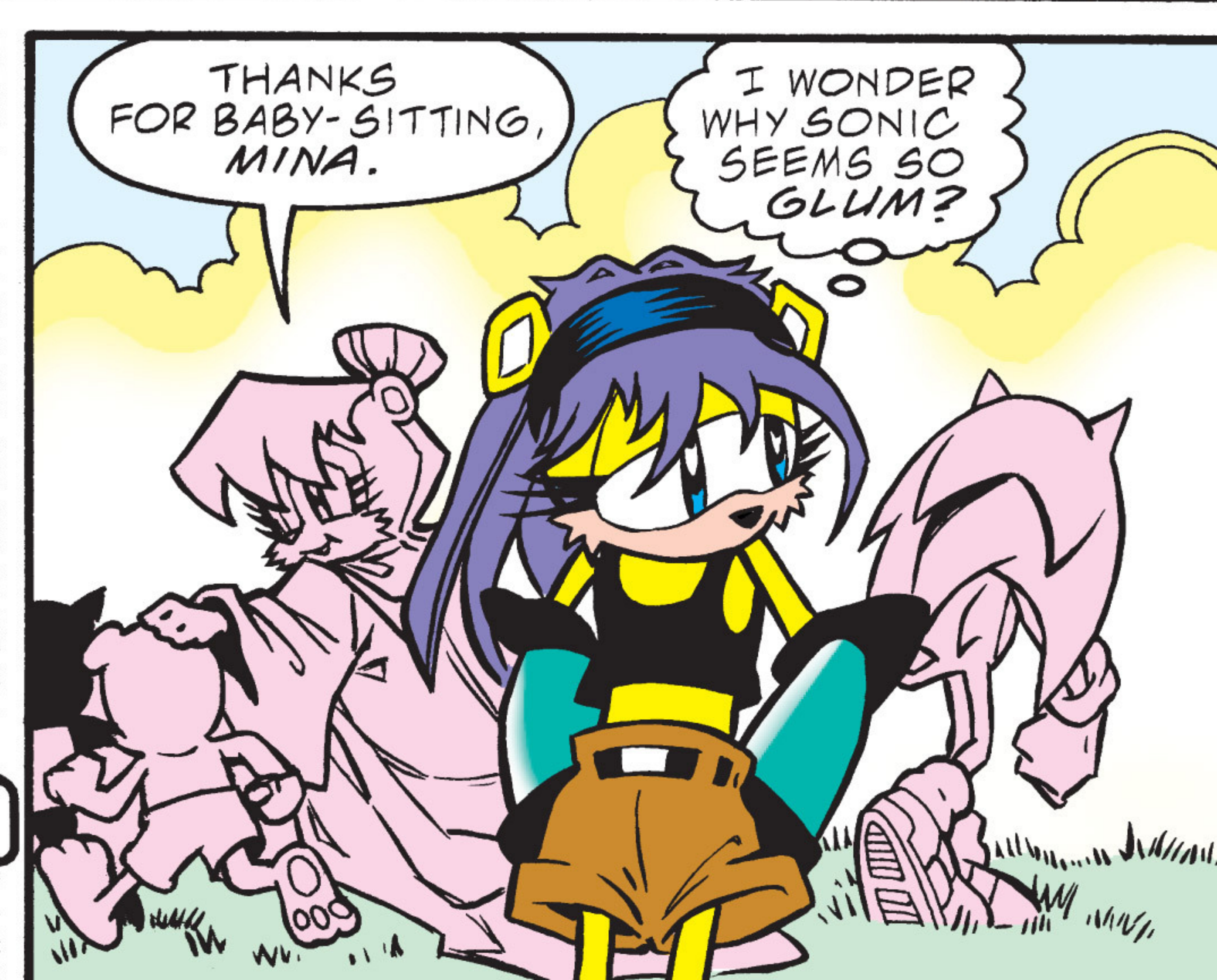
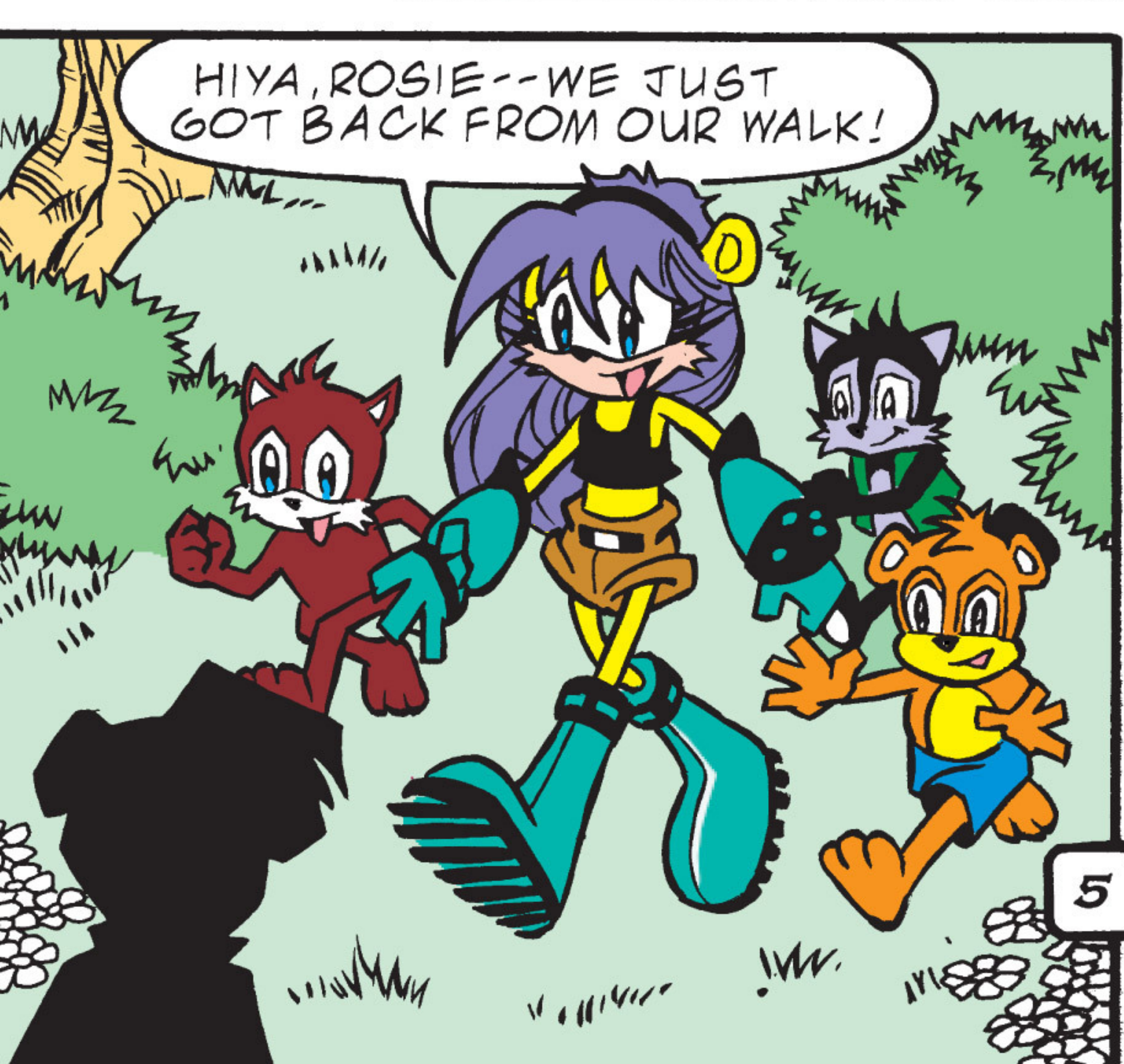
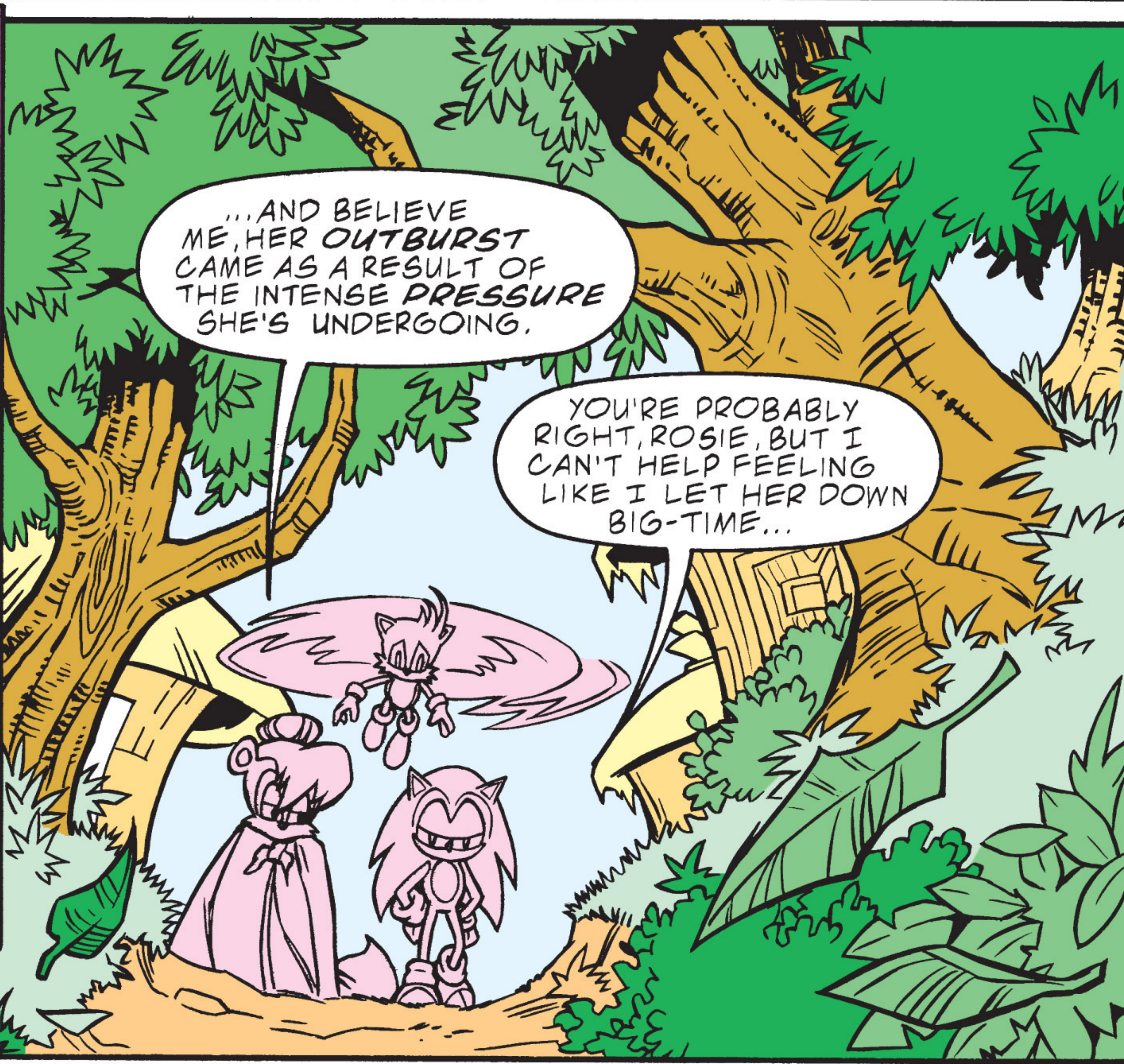
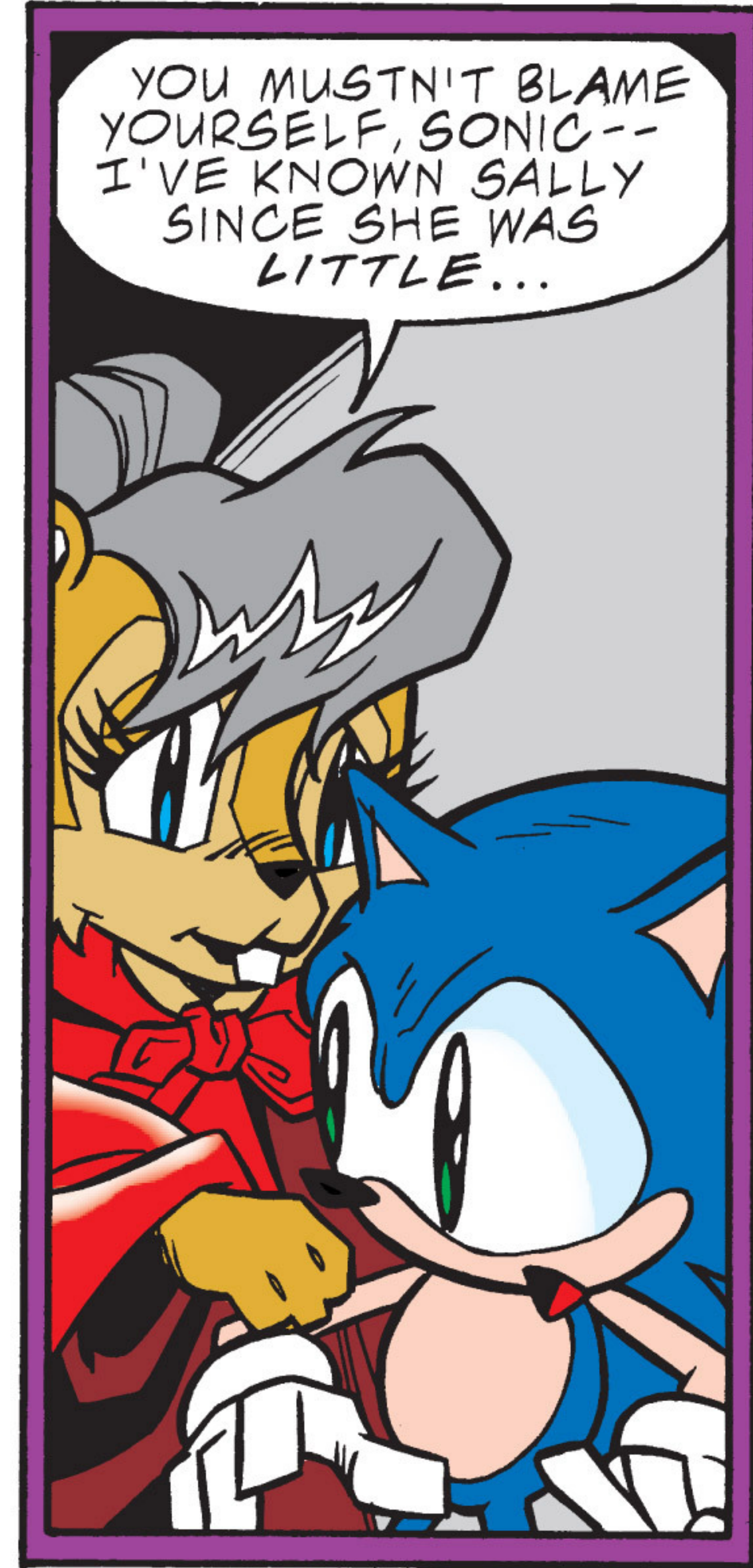
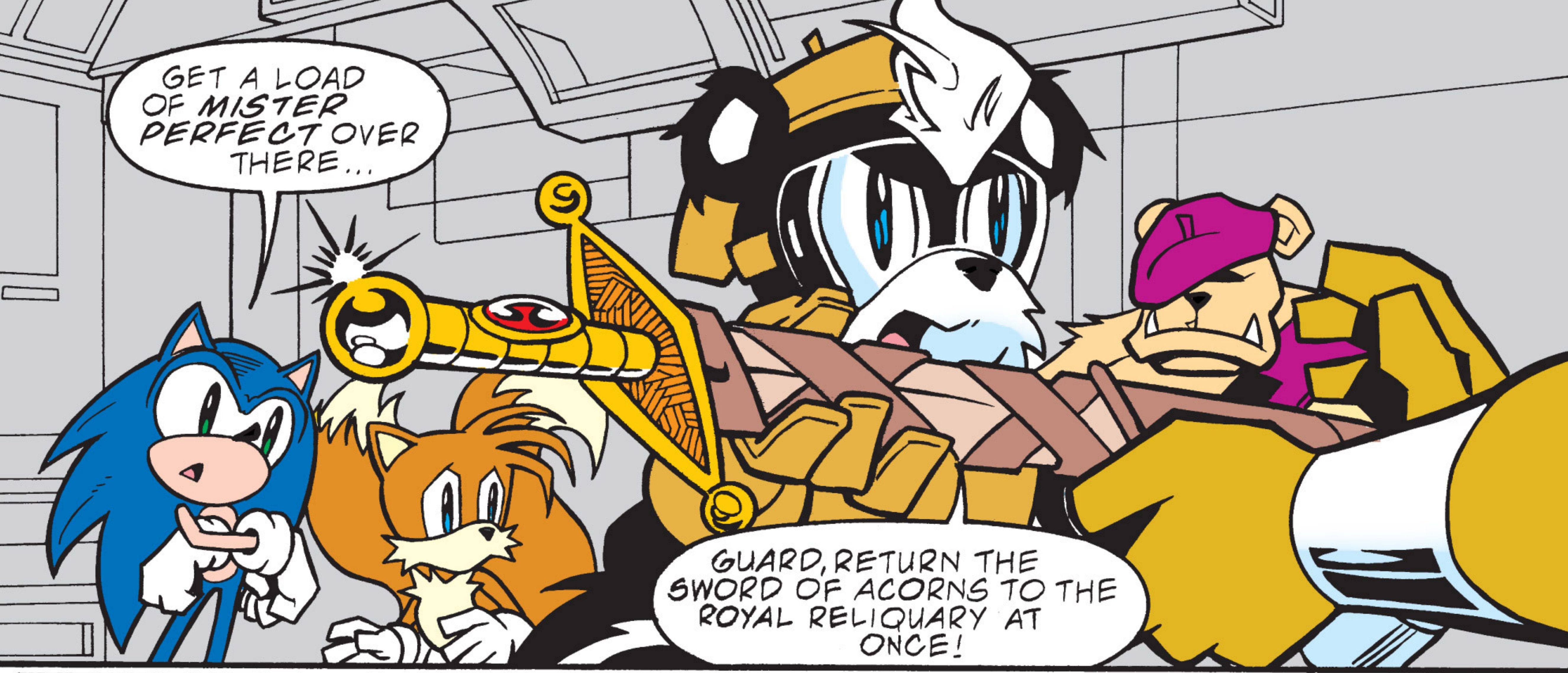
...AND...
...WHAT'S HAPPENED TO MY SCIENCE LAB?

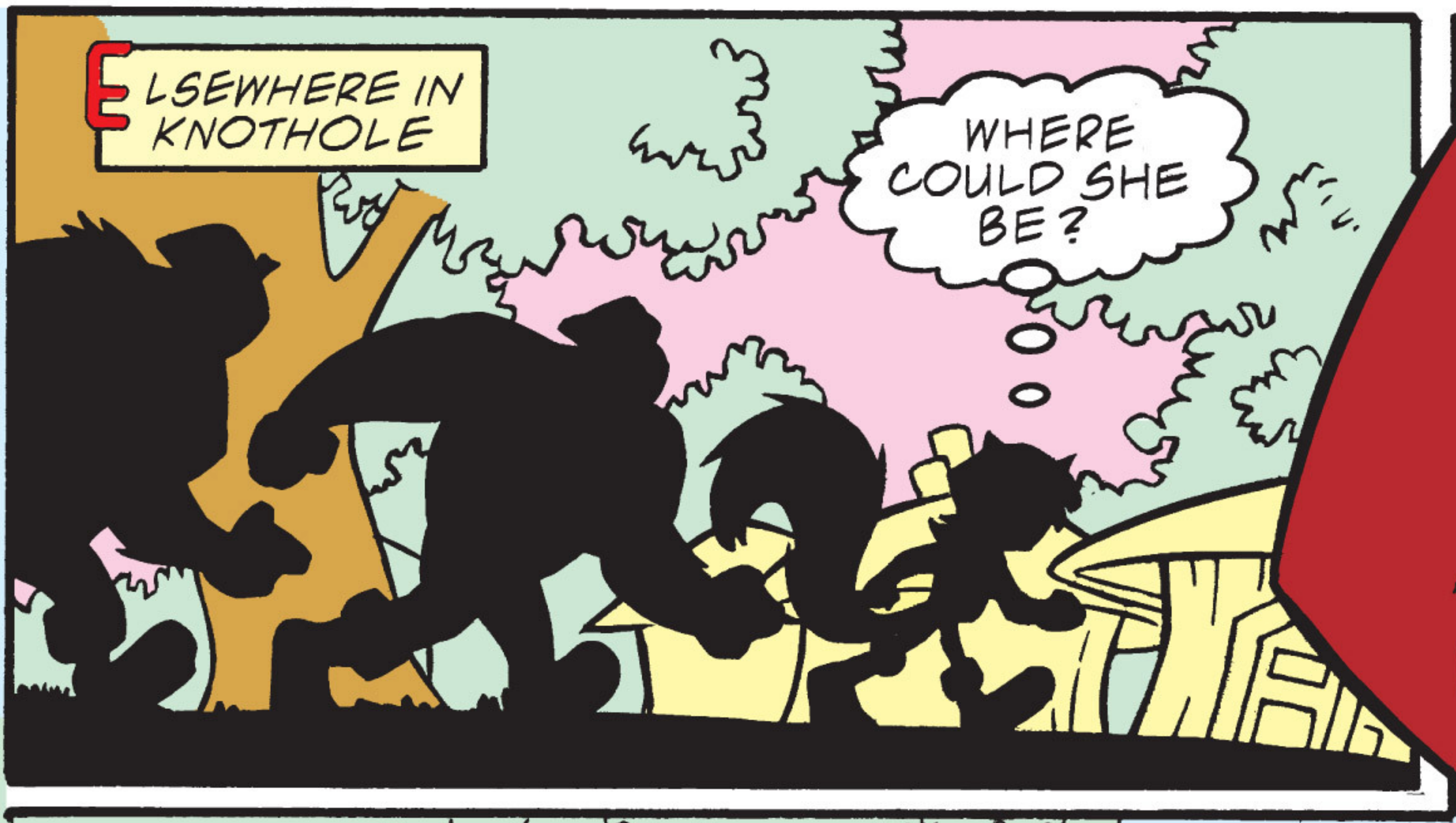


I GET THE FEELING...



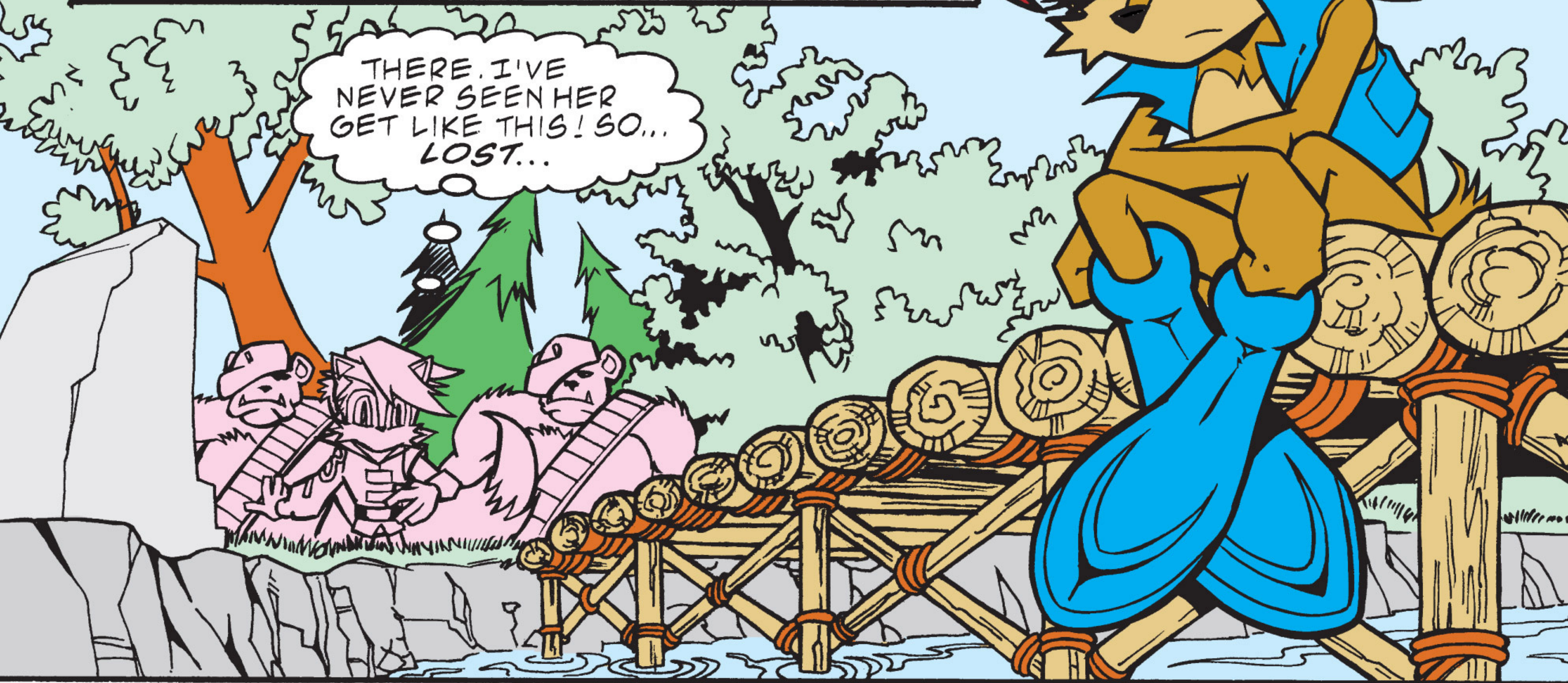
...THAT THAT HEDGEHOG HAS BEEN HERE LATELY!



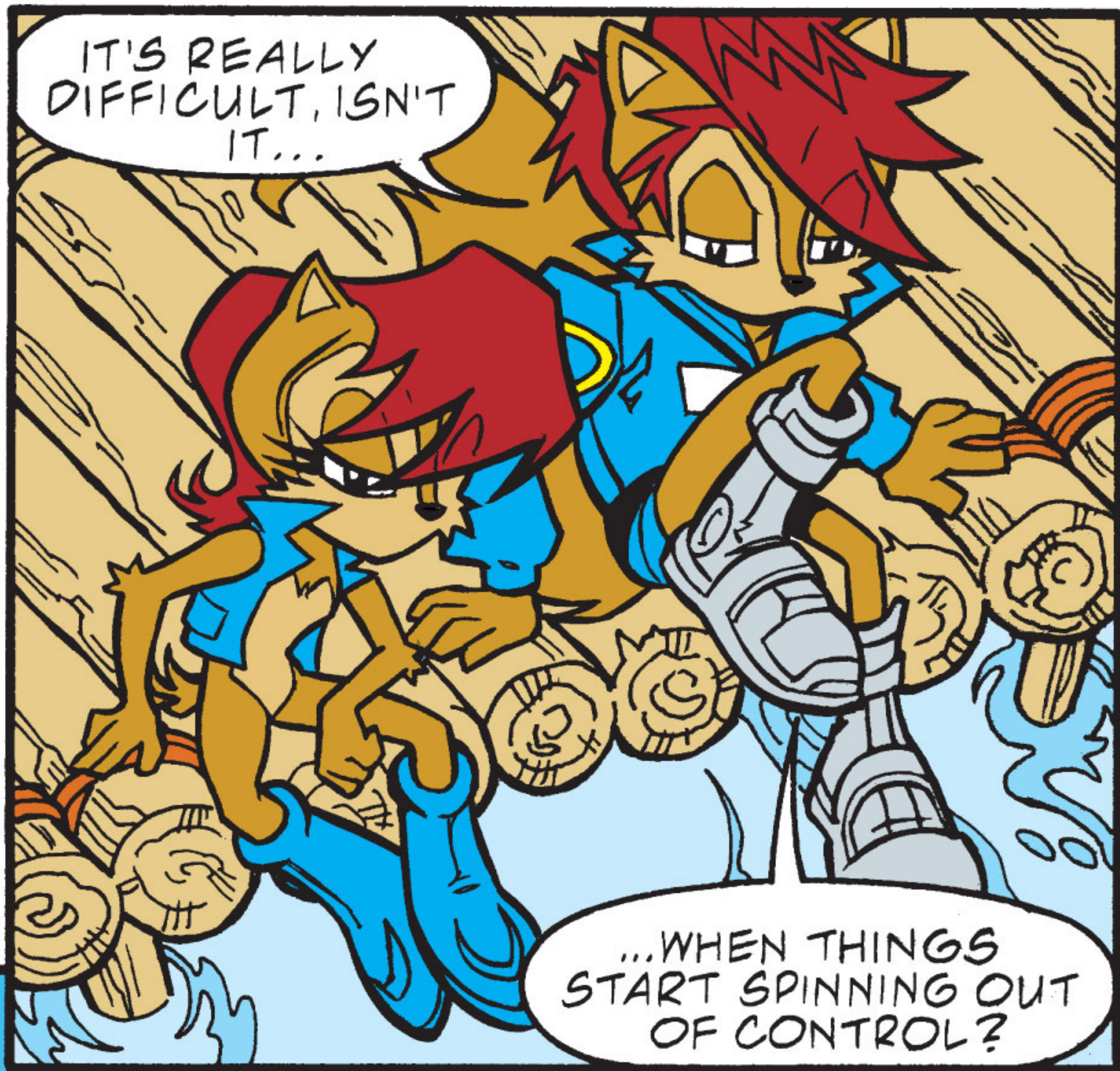


ELSEWHERE IN
KNOTHOLE

WHERE
COULD SHE
BE?



THERE. I'VE
NEVER SEEN HER
GET LIKE THIS! SO...
LOST...



IT'S REALLY
DIFFICULT, ISN'T
IT...

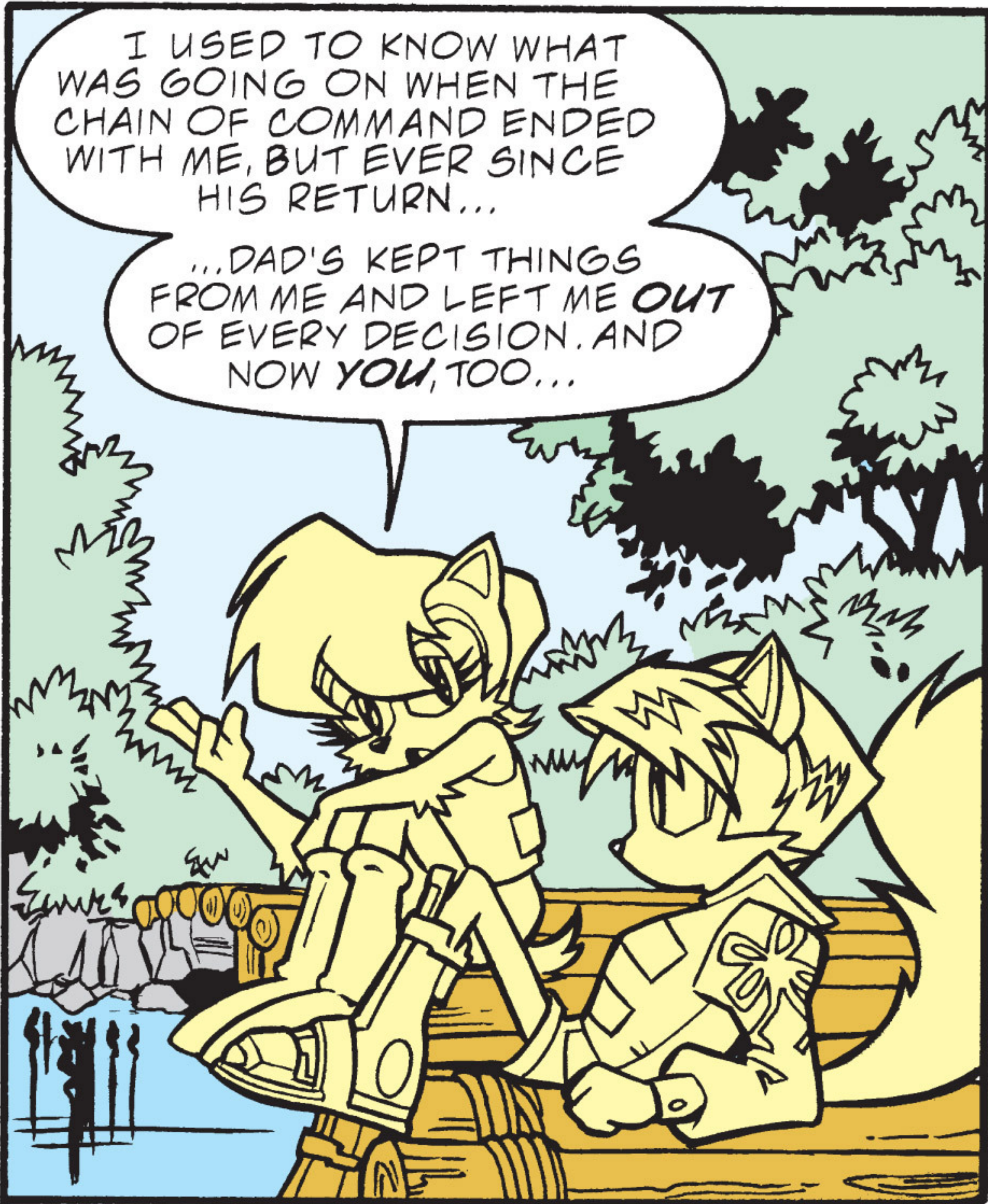
...WHEN THINGS
START SPINNING
OUT OF CONTROL?



START? THEY'VE
BEEN SPINNING OUT
OF CONTROL FOR
SOME TIME NOW.



HOW
SO?



I USED TO KNOW WHAT WAS GOING ON WHEN THE CHAIN OF COMMAND ENDED WITH ME, BUT EVER SINCE HIS RETURN...

...DAD'S KEPT THINGS FROM ME AND LEFT ME OUT OF EVERY DECISION. AND NOW YOU, TOO...



YOU'RE ABSOLUTELY RIGHT, SALLY, AND IT WAS WRONG OF ME TO DO SO.

YOU SHOULD'VE BEEN INFORMED OF MOTHER'S CONDITION BEFORE YOU'D LEFT FOR THAT HIDDEN CITY OF THE OLD ONES...

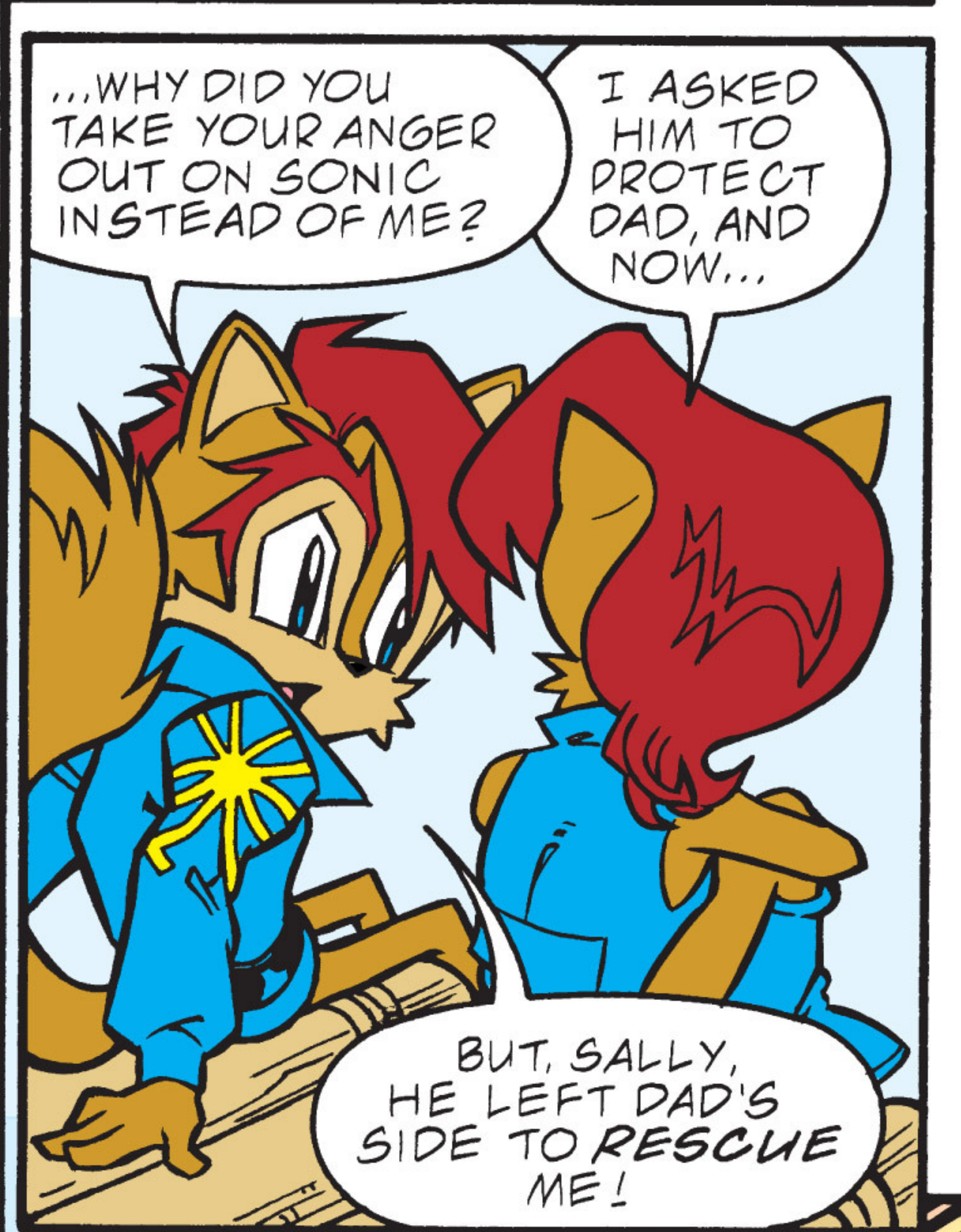
ANCIENTS.



I'M NOT READY TO LOSE MOM AND DAD.

SEE? FATHER SHOULD'VE APPOINTED YOU THE SUCCESSOR TO THE THRONE. YOU HAVE A KNACK FOR IT...

NOR I. BUT TELL ME...



...WHY DID YOU TAKE YOUR ANGER OUT ON SONIC INSTEAD OF ME?

I ASKED HIM TO PROTECT DAD, AND NOW...

BUT, SALLY, HE LEFT DAD'S SIDE TO RESCUE ME!

OH, SONIC!

"I COULD HUG YOU!"

DON'T WORRY, SON,
YOUR MOM AND I KNOW
YOU TRIED YOUR BEST BUT
EVEN YOU CAN'T BE IN TWO
PLACES AT ONCE.

PRINCESS
WILL COME
AROUND-- YOU
JUST WAIT!

IN THE
MEANTIME, WHY
DON'T I FIX YOU
SOME BREAKFAST?

MAYBE I'M JUST
A LOOSE CANNON
-- ALWAYS ACTING
BEFORE THINKING.

I--

I WISH UNCLE
CHUCK WERE HERE.
HE HAD ALL THE
ANSWERS...

THICKER THAN WATER

CHAPTER TWO

SONIC AND
COMPANY ACTUALLY
HAD THE NERVE TO
STORM MY BASE OF
OPERATIONS?

"AND THE KING'S
SWORD SOME-
HOW RESTORED
FREE WILL TO
THE HEDGE-
HOG'S UNCLE
AND PET DOG?"

FIND ME
THAT WEAPON
AT ONCE!

UNCLE CHUCK SEEMED LIKE HIS OLD SELF AGAIN WHEN SALLY POINTED THE SWORD OF ACORNS AT HIM, HUH, TAILS?

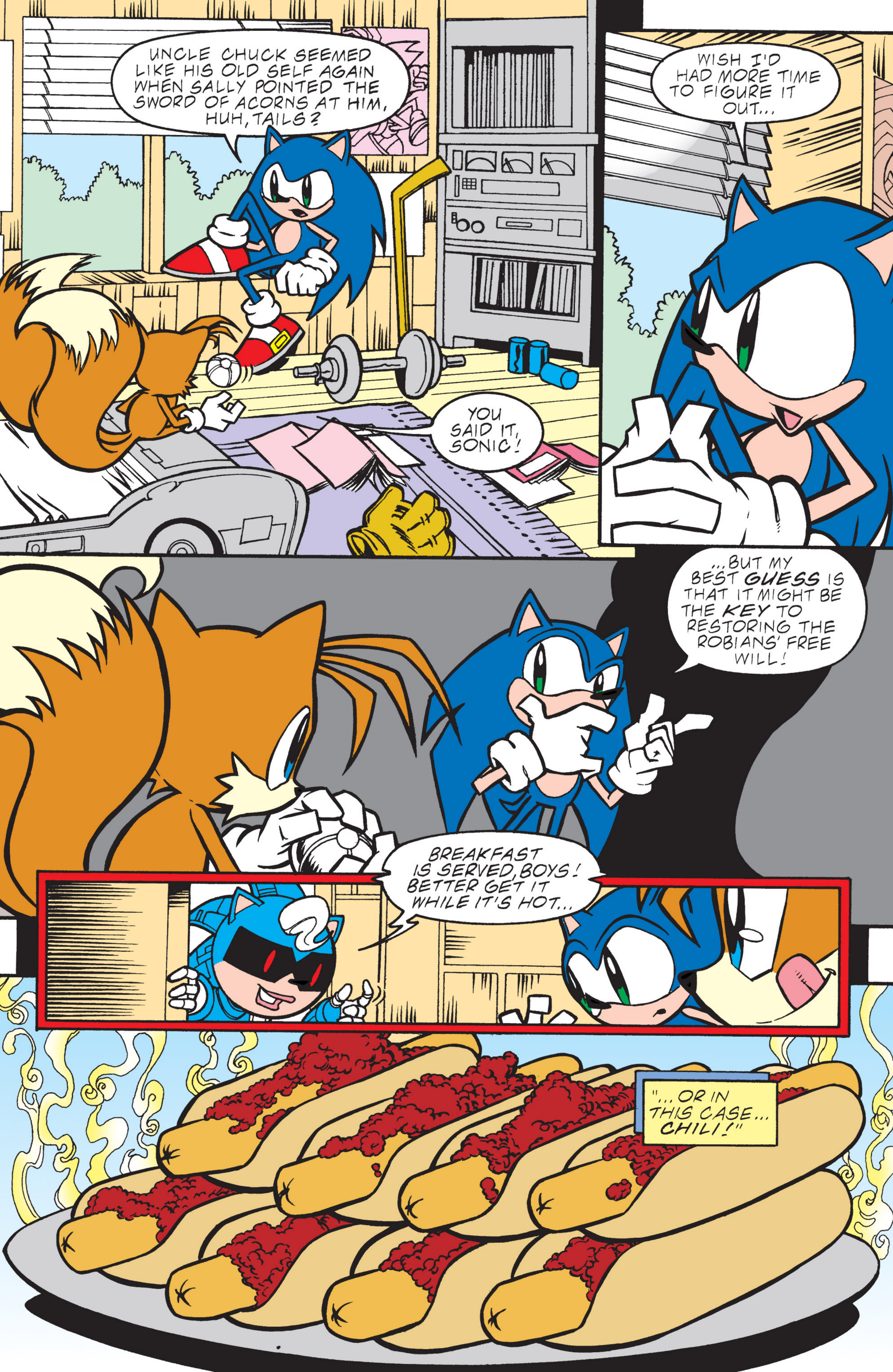
WISH I'D HAD MORE TIME TO FIGURE IT OUT...

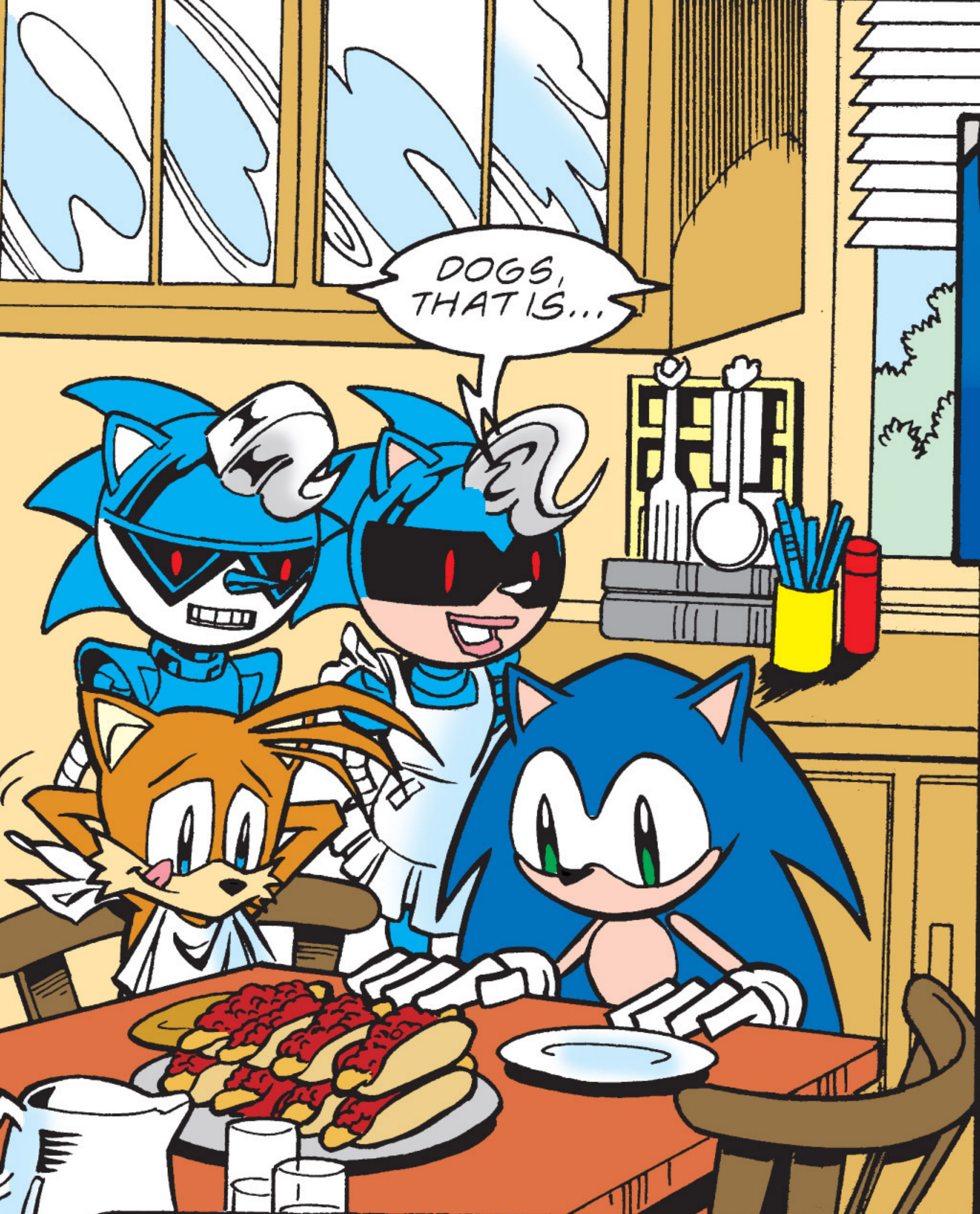
YOU SAID IT, SONIC!

...BUT MY BEST GUESS IS THAT IT MIGHT BE THE KEY TO RESTORING THE ROBBIANS' FREE WILL!

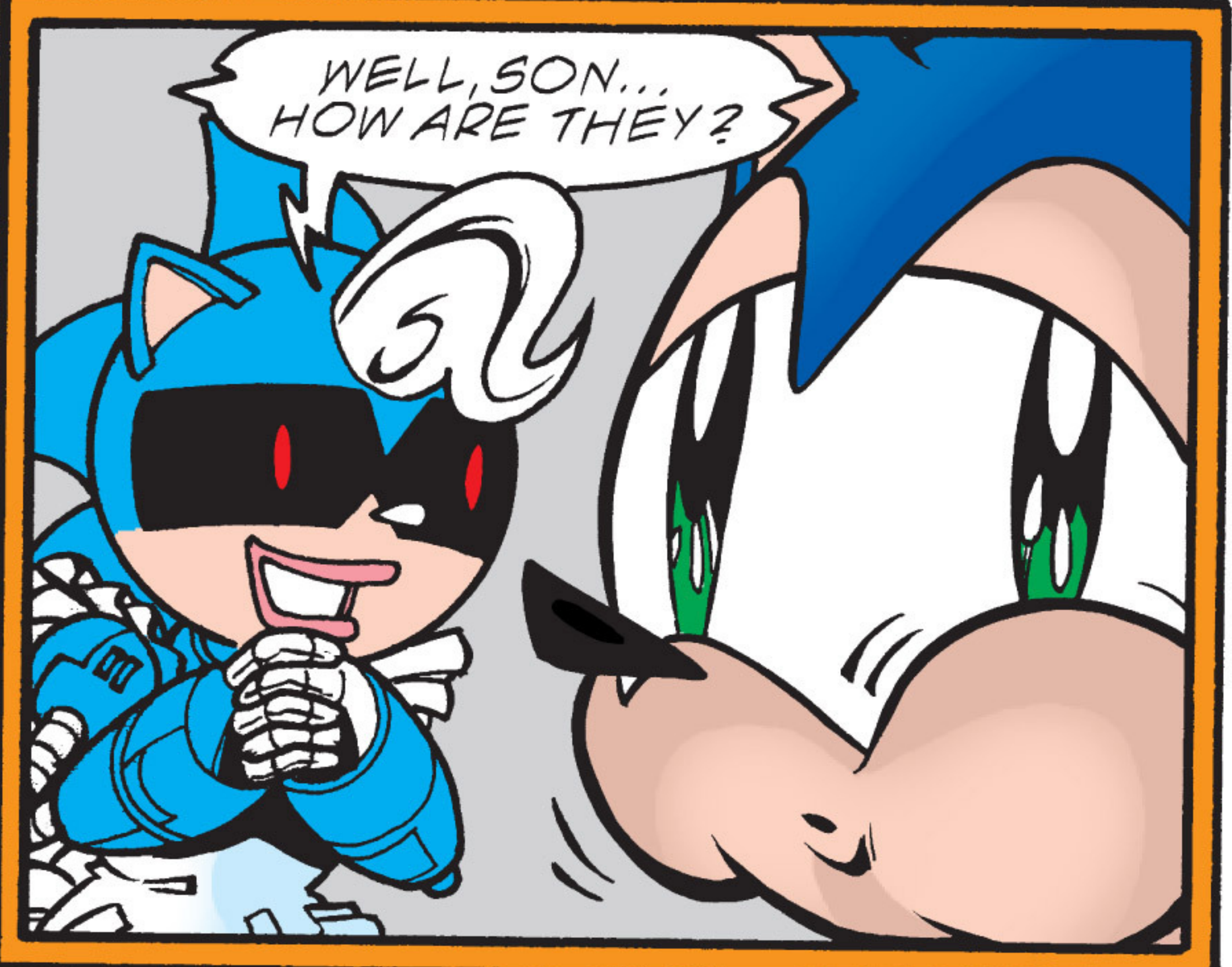
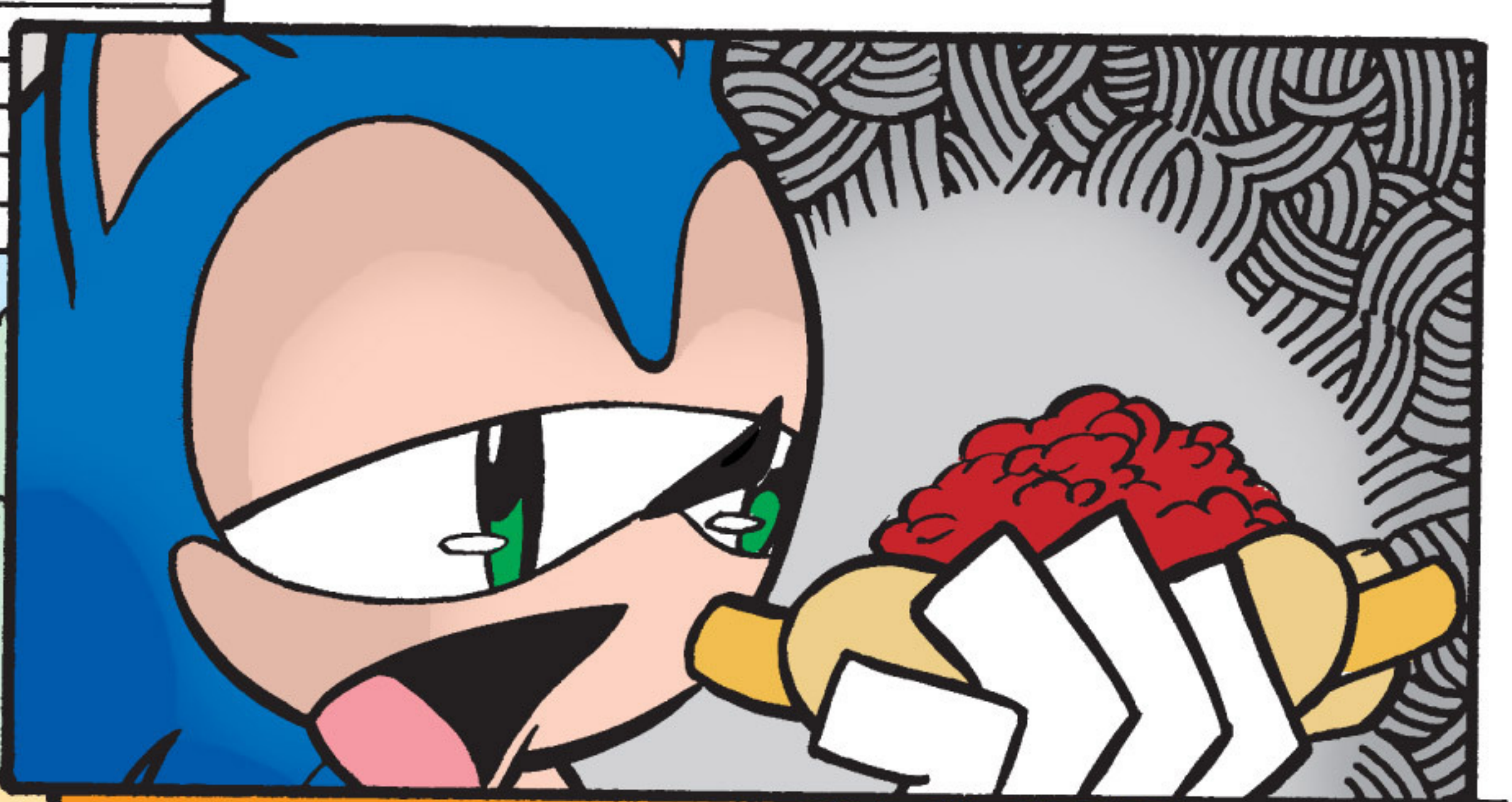
BREAKFAST IS SERVED, BOYS! BETTER GET IT WHILE IT'S HOT...

"...OR IN THIS CASE... CHILI!"

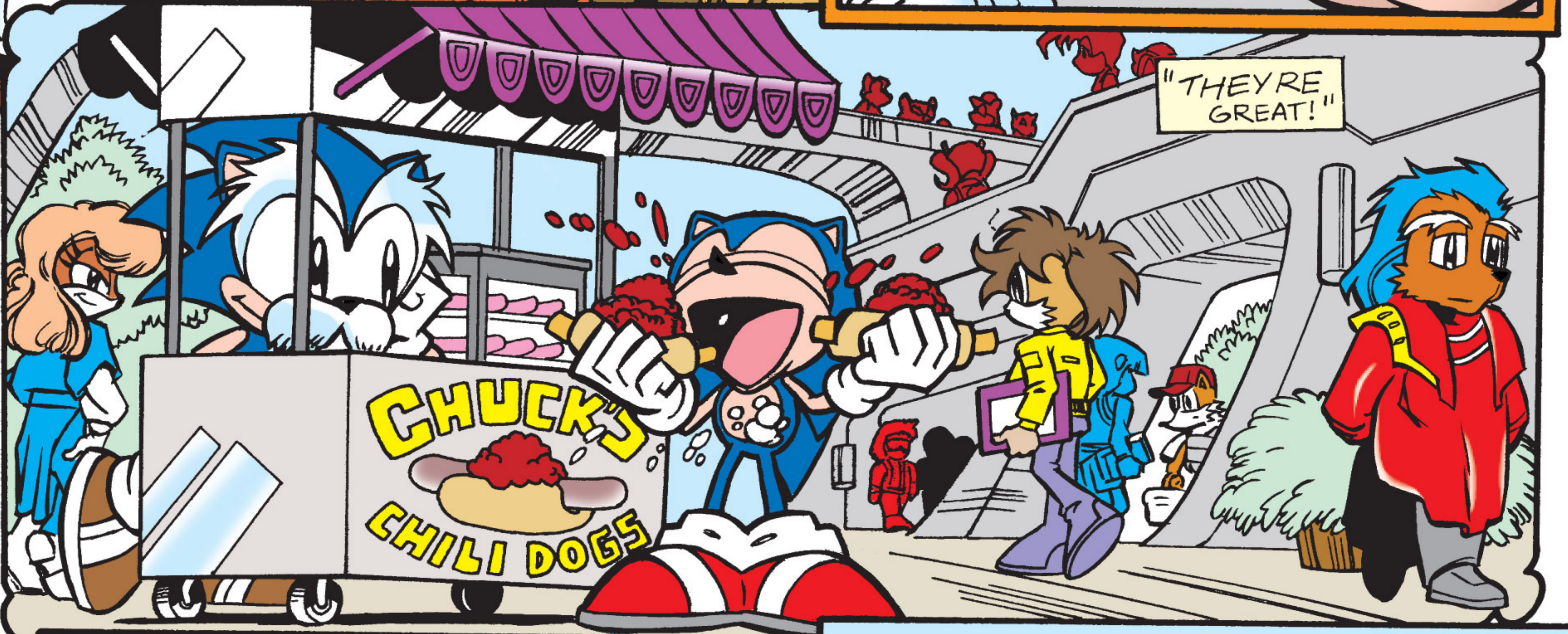




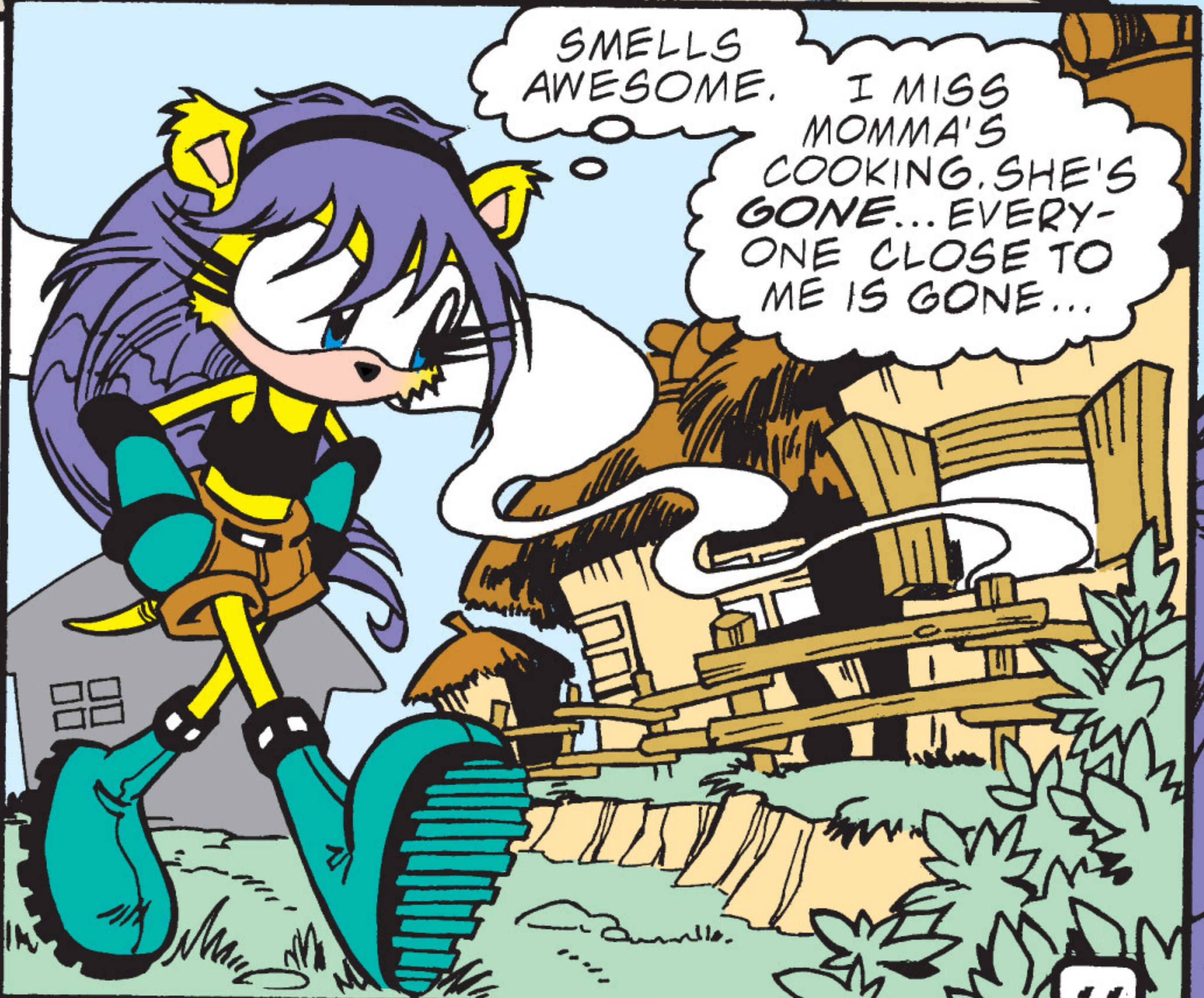
DOGS,
THAT IS...



WELL, SON...
HOW ARE THEY?



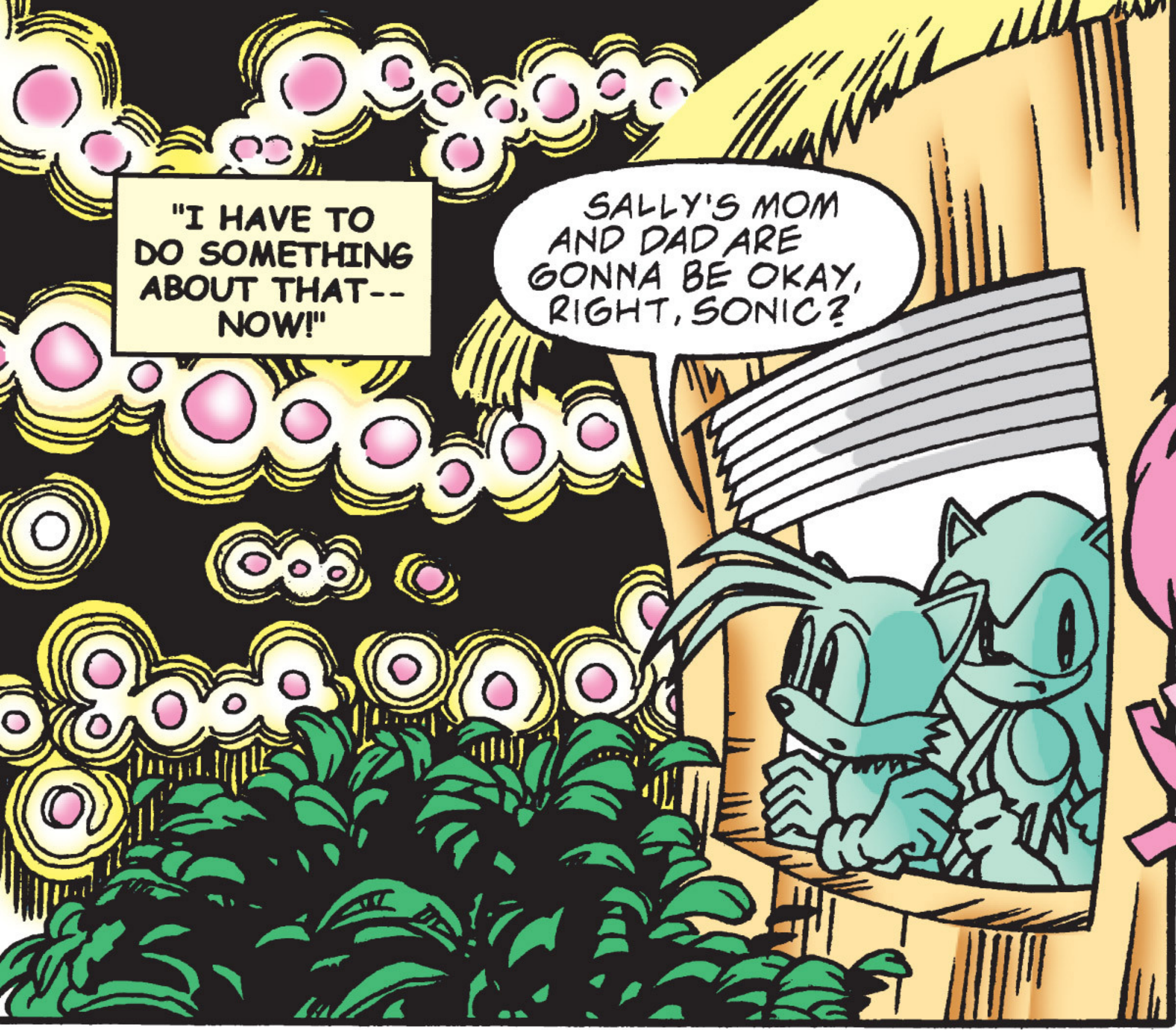
"THEY'RE
GREAT!"



SMELLS
AWESOME. I MISS
MOMMA'S
COOKING. SHE'S
GONE... EVERY-
ONE CLOSE TO
ME IS GONE...

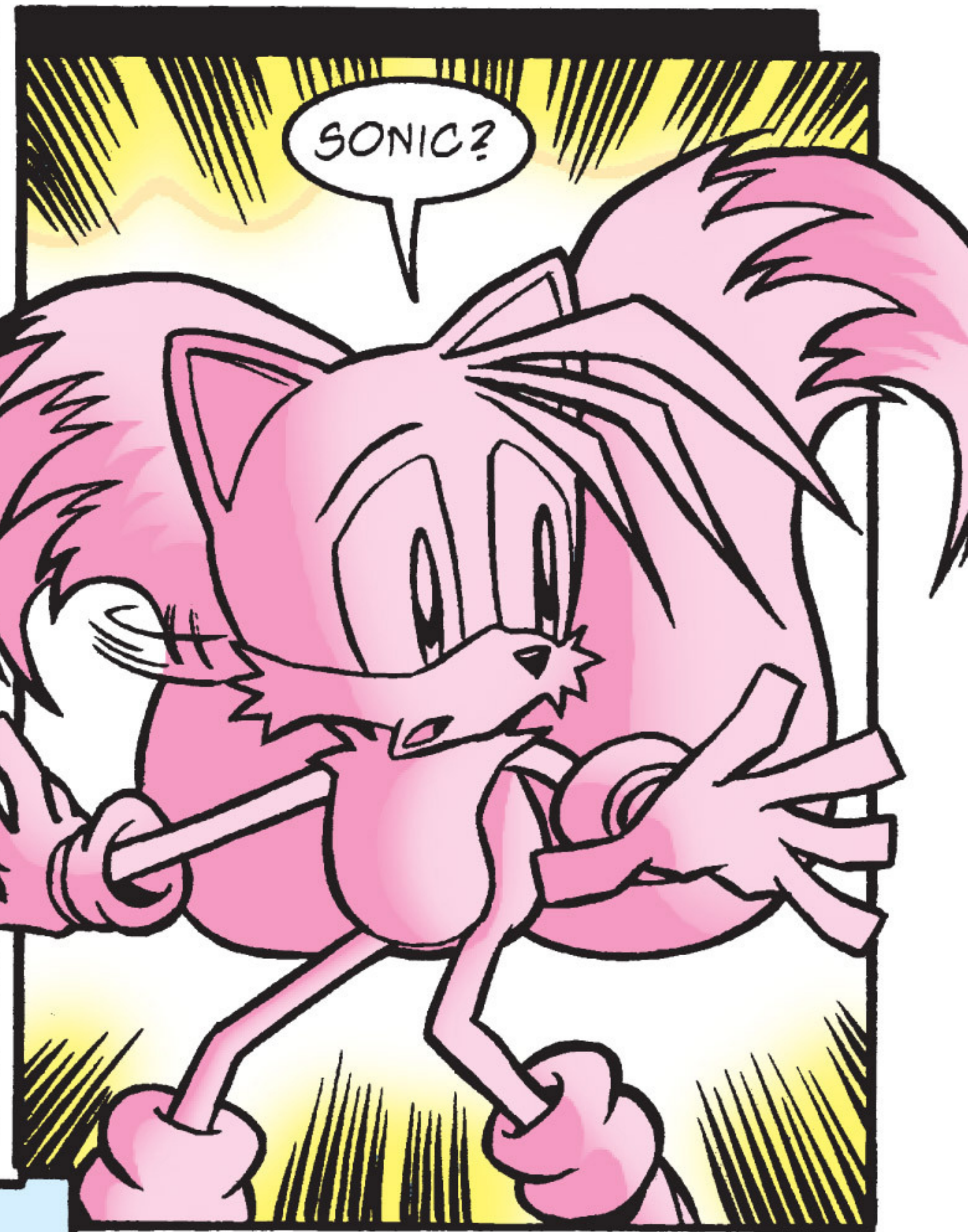


... AND IT'S
ALL ROBOTNIK'S
FAULT!

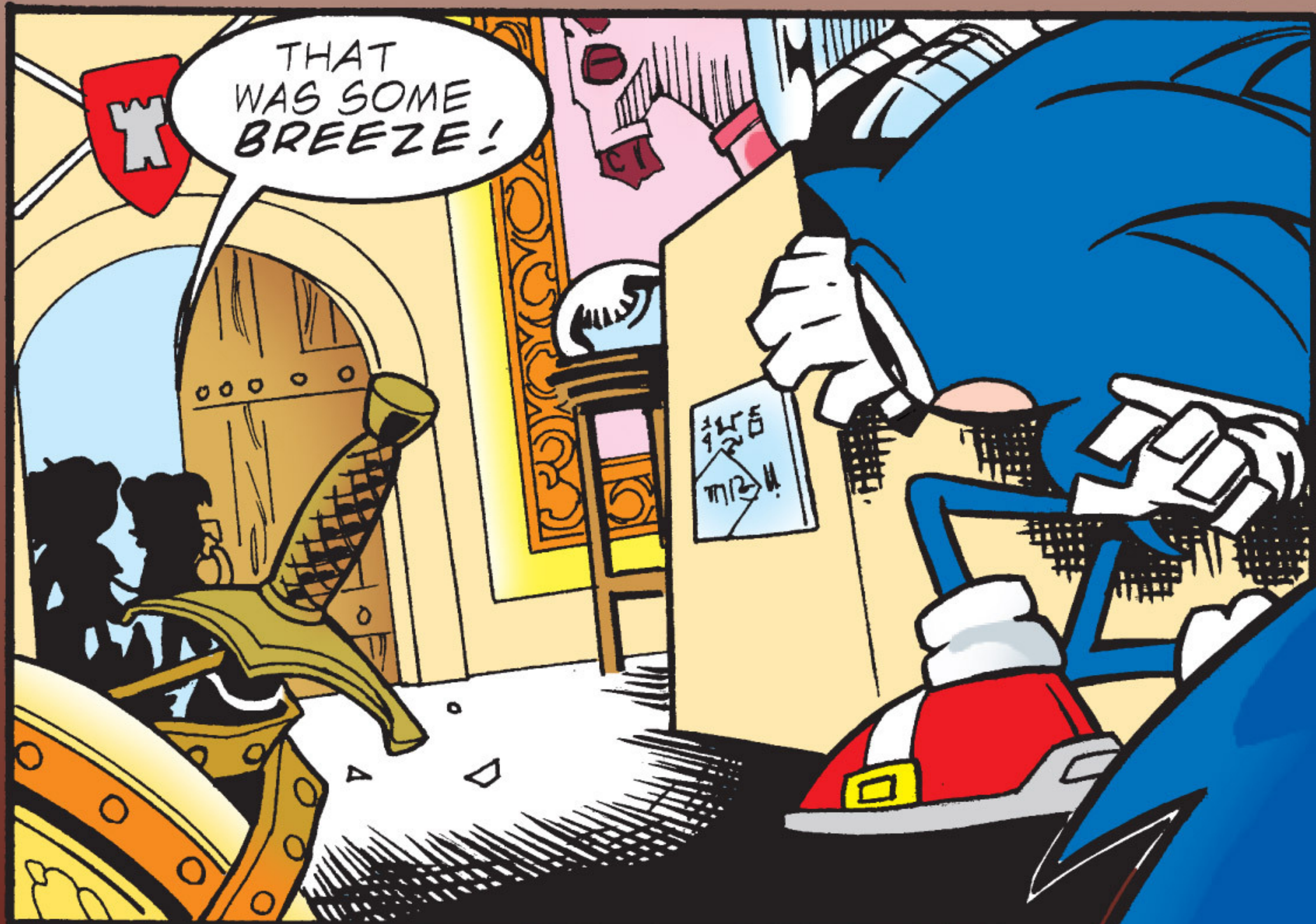


"I HAVE TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THAT-- NOW!"

SALLY'S MOM AND DAD ARE GONNA BE OKAY, RIGHT, SONIC?"

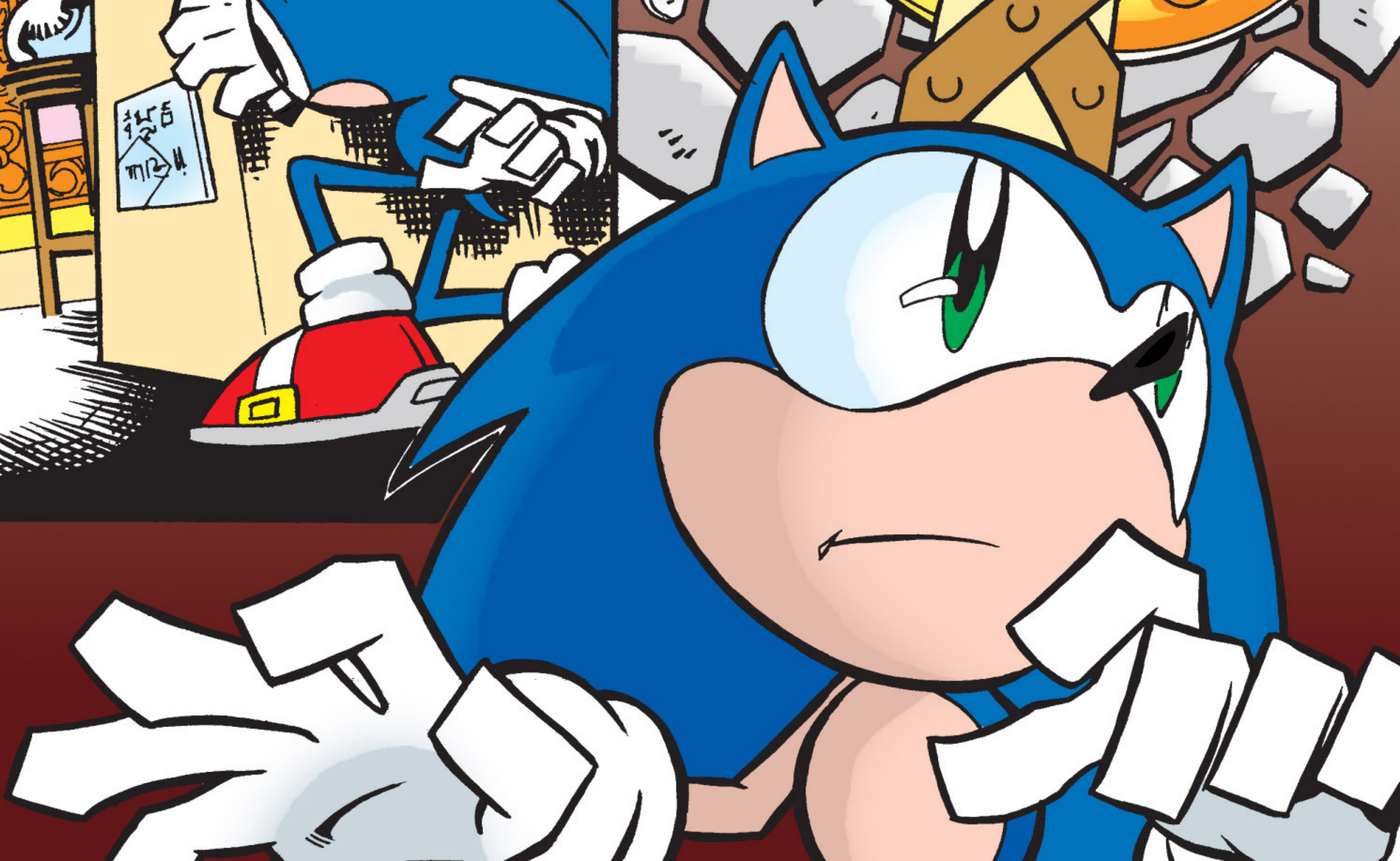


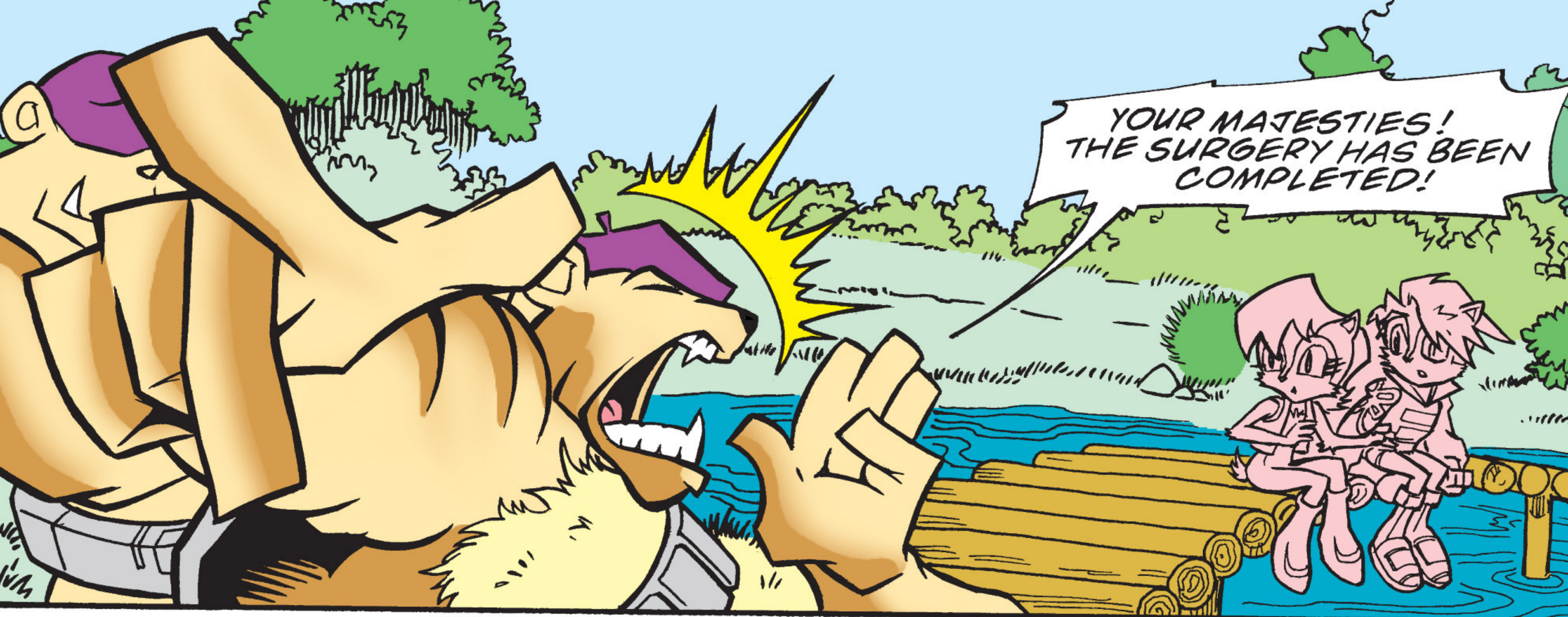
SONIC?"



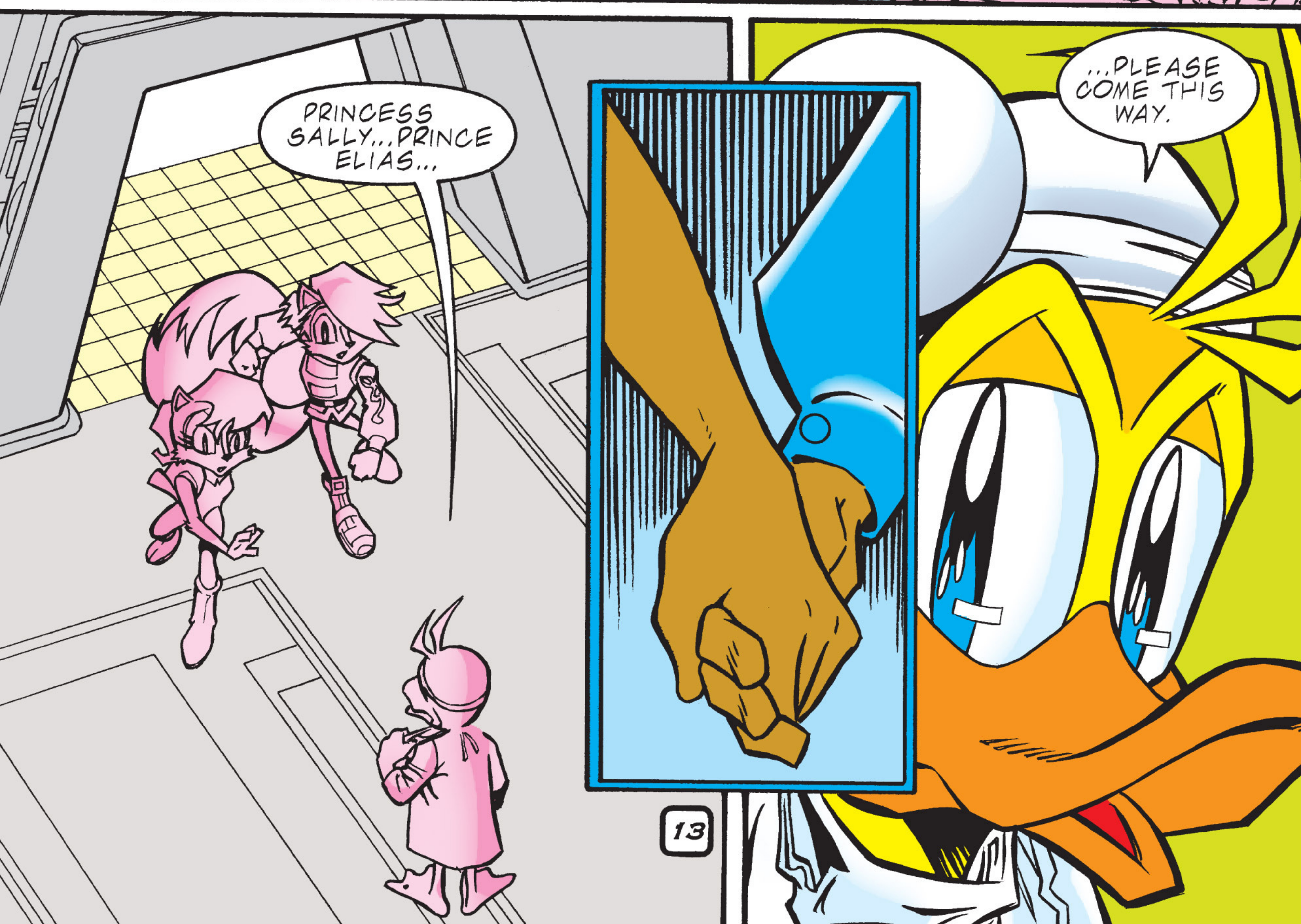
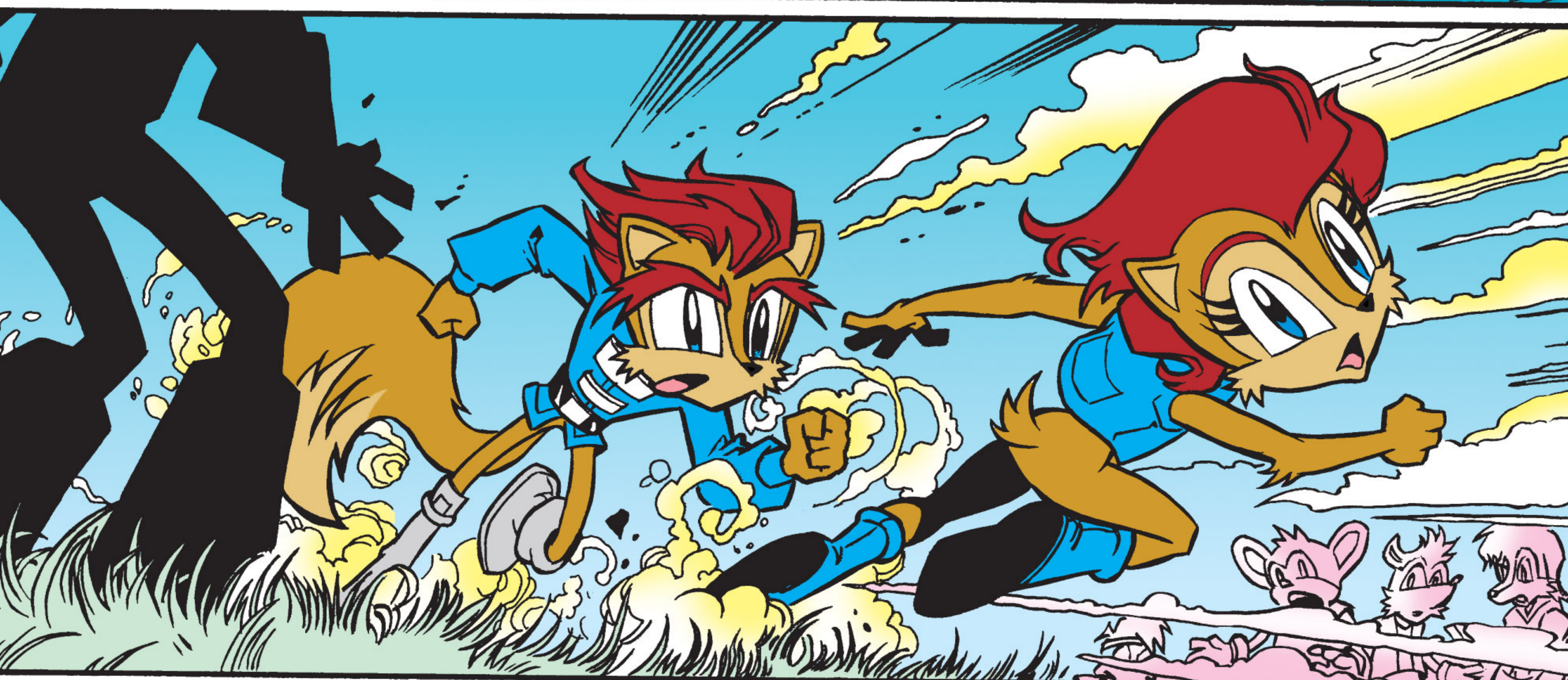
THAT WAS SOME BREEZE!"

THE
MIRACLES



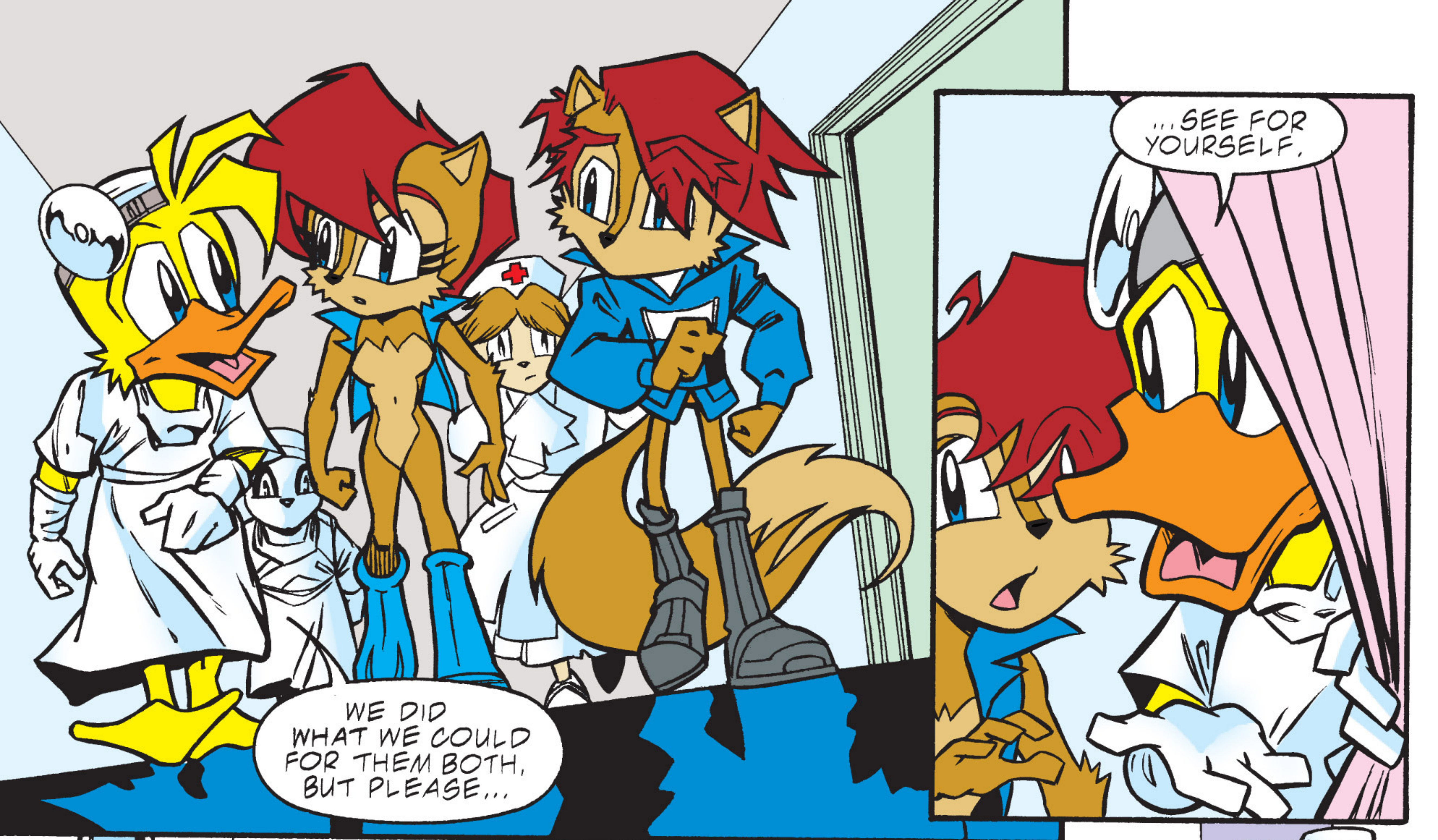


YOUR MAJESTIES!
THE SURGERY HAS BEEN
COMPLETED!



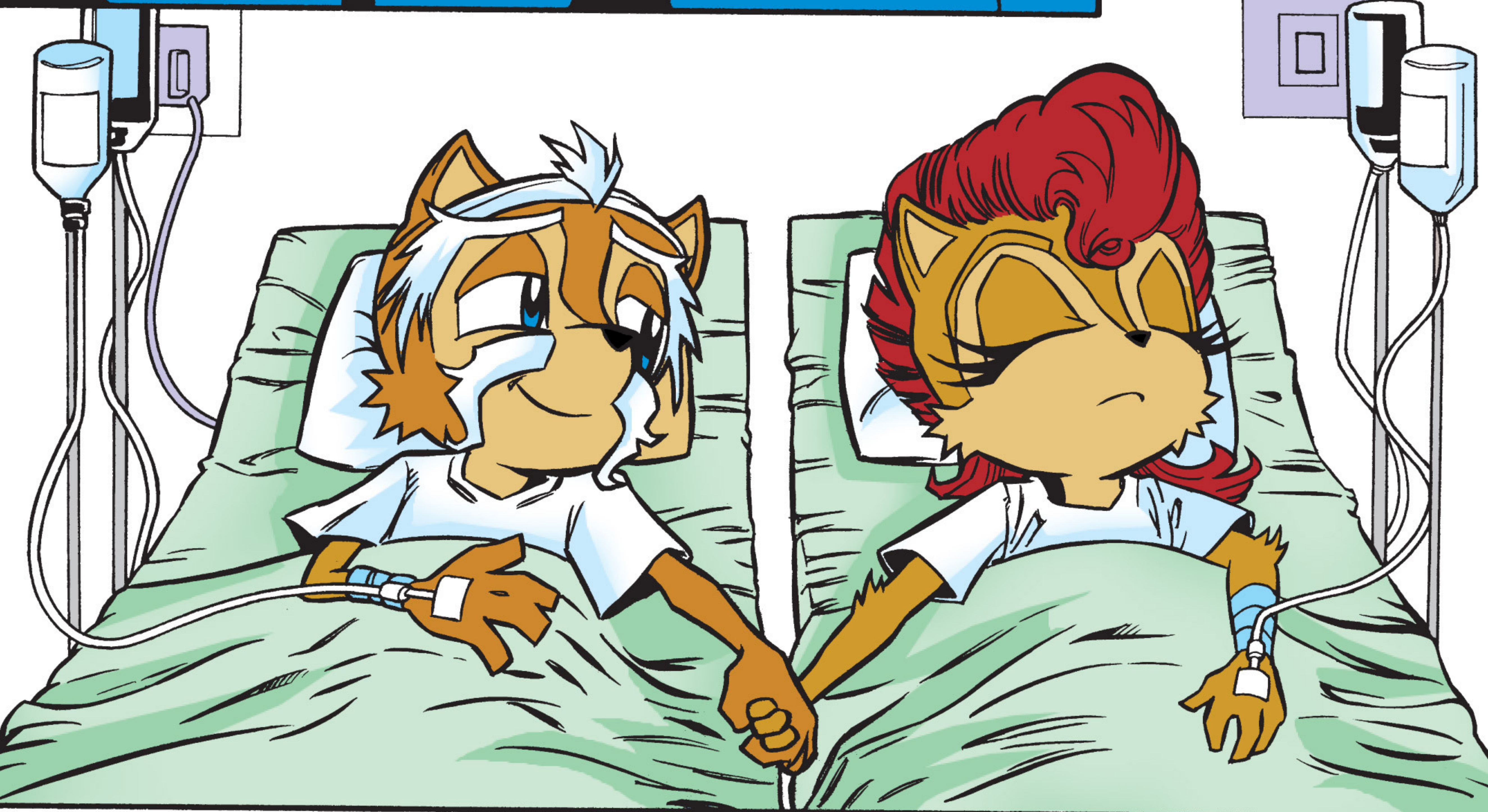
PRINCESS
SALLY... PRINCE
ELIAS...

...PLEASE
COME THIS
WAY.



WE DID WHAT WE COULD FOR THEM BOTH, BUT PLEASE...

...SEE FOR YOURSELF.



FATHER...

DAD... HOW ARE YOU...?

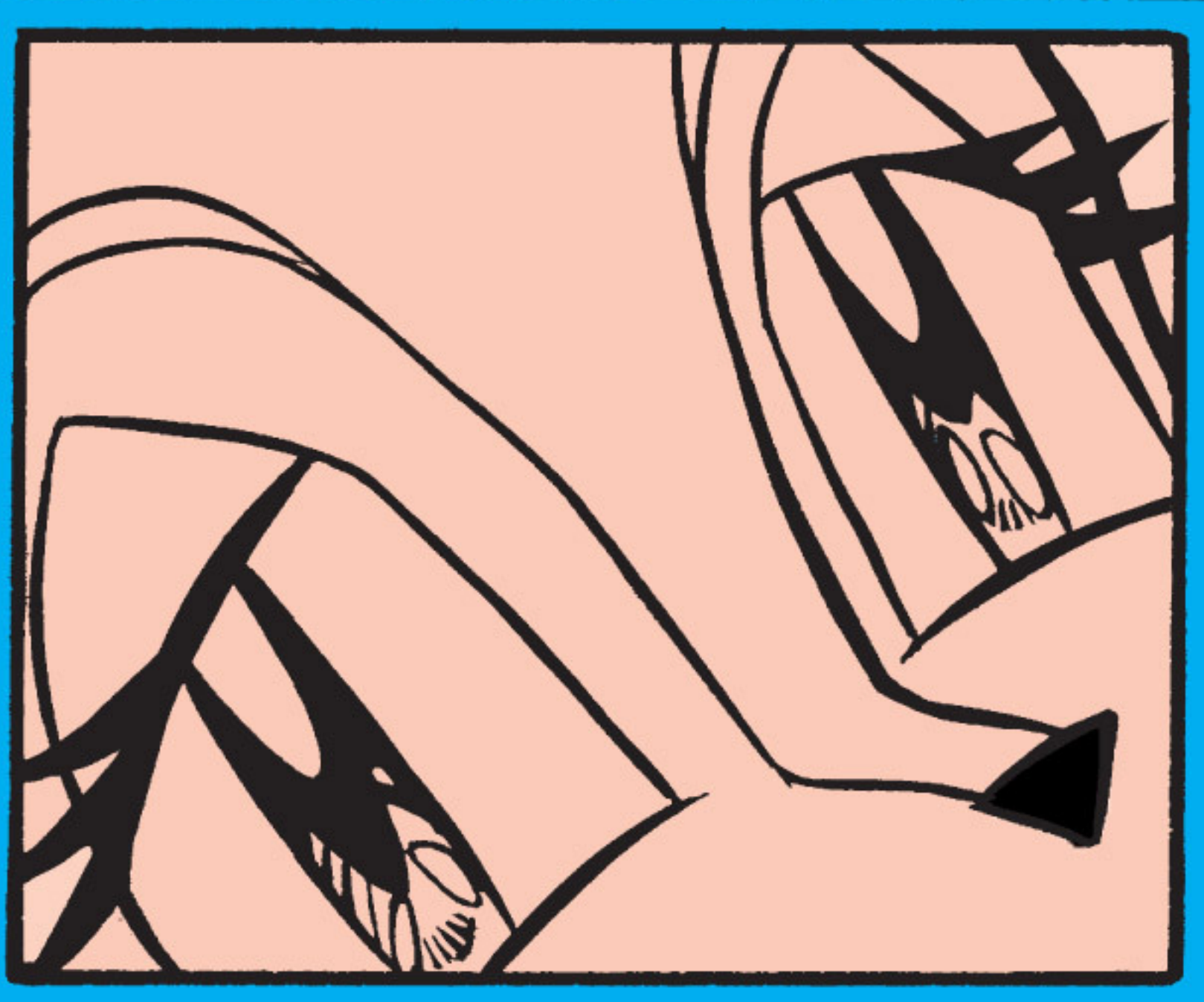
FINE... WE'RE BOTH FINE...

WHA...?

MY HAND -- SHE SQUEEZED MY HAND -- I FELT IT!

MOTHER...

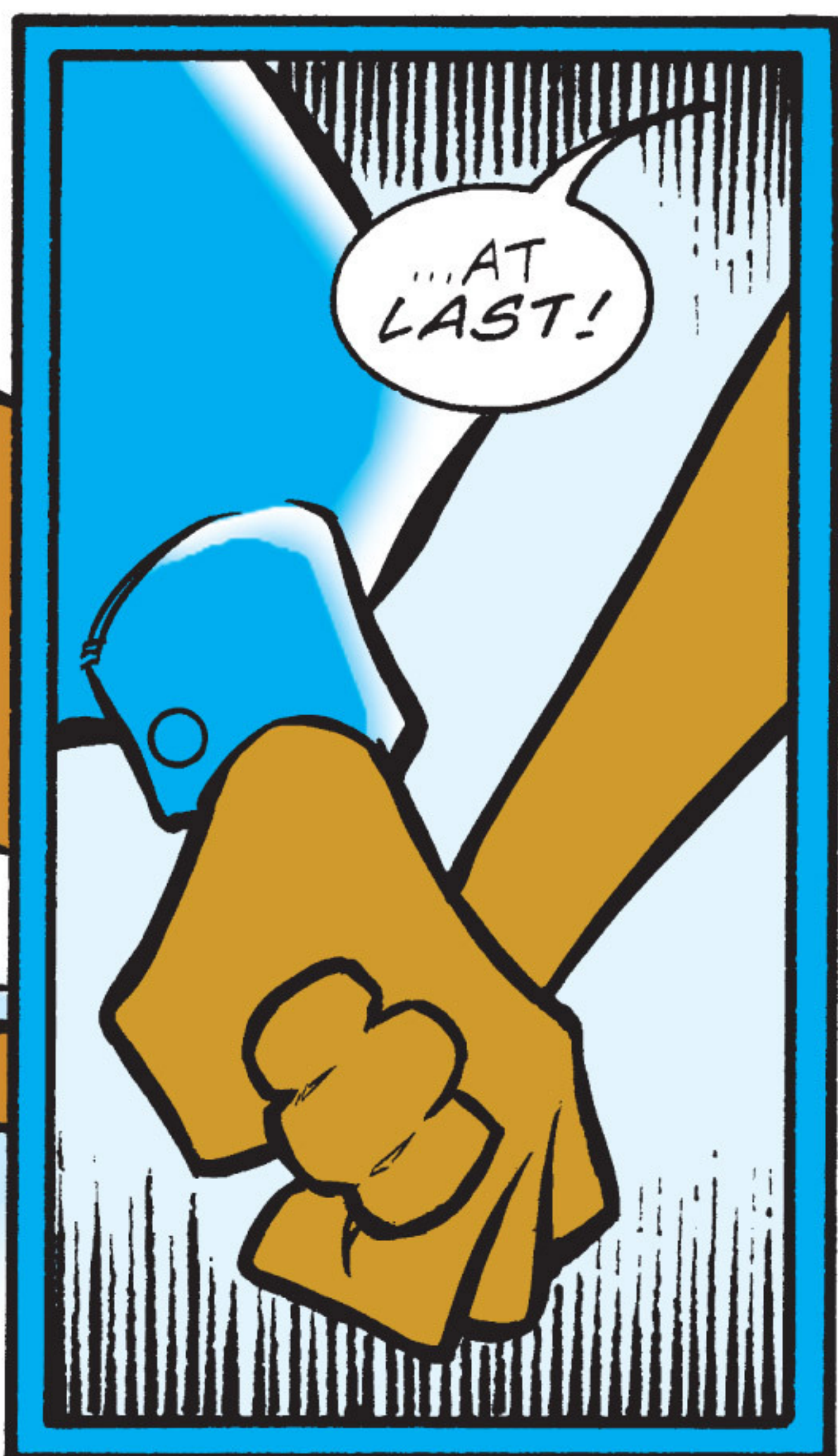
OH, MY...



MAXIMILLIAN...?

SHE'S BACK, SALLY!

AT LAST, ELIAS...



...AT LAST!



**TO BE
CONTINUED!**

Born to the most noble of Echidna houses, the latest to continue the family heritage and responsibility as Guardian of The Floating Island, defender of all against the forces of evil from the world beyond as well as those who would threaten from within!

ARCHIE COMICS AND SEGA PRESENT... KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA!

KNUCKLES HAS SET OFF ON A QUEST TO LEARN THE FATE OF WHAT HAPPENED TO THE FLOATING ISLAND AND ALL WHO LIVED UPON IT. HIS TRAVELS HAVE BROUGHT HIM HERE, TO SPOTTINGHAM FOREST AND OLD FRIENDS,

A MATTER OF SELF INTEREST

LIPON COMPARING NOTES, IT WAS DECIDED THAT ANSWERS MIGHT BE FOUND ACROSS THE CHANNEL ON THE ISLAND HOMETLAND OF THE ECHIDNA RACE, ALBION! AND SO IT IS WE FIND KNUCKLES AND COMPANY SETTING SAIL UNDER A PALE MOONLIGHT...

DIDN'T THOU WALK ACROSS THE WATER'S SURFACE LAST WE MET?

YEAH! BUT I HAVE THIS THING ABOUT WATER AND TEMPTING FATE!

WHATEVER WERE YOU DOING HEAH, SUGAH-KNUCKLES?

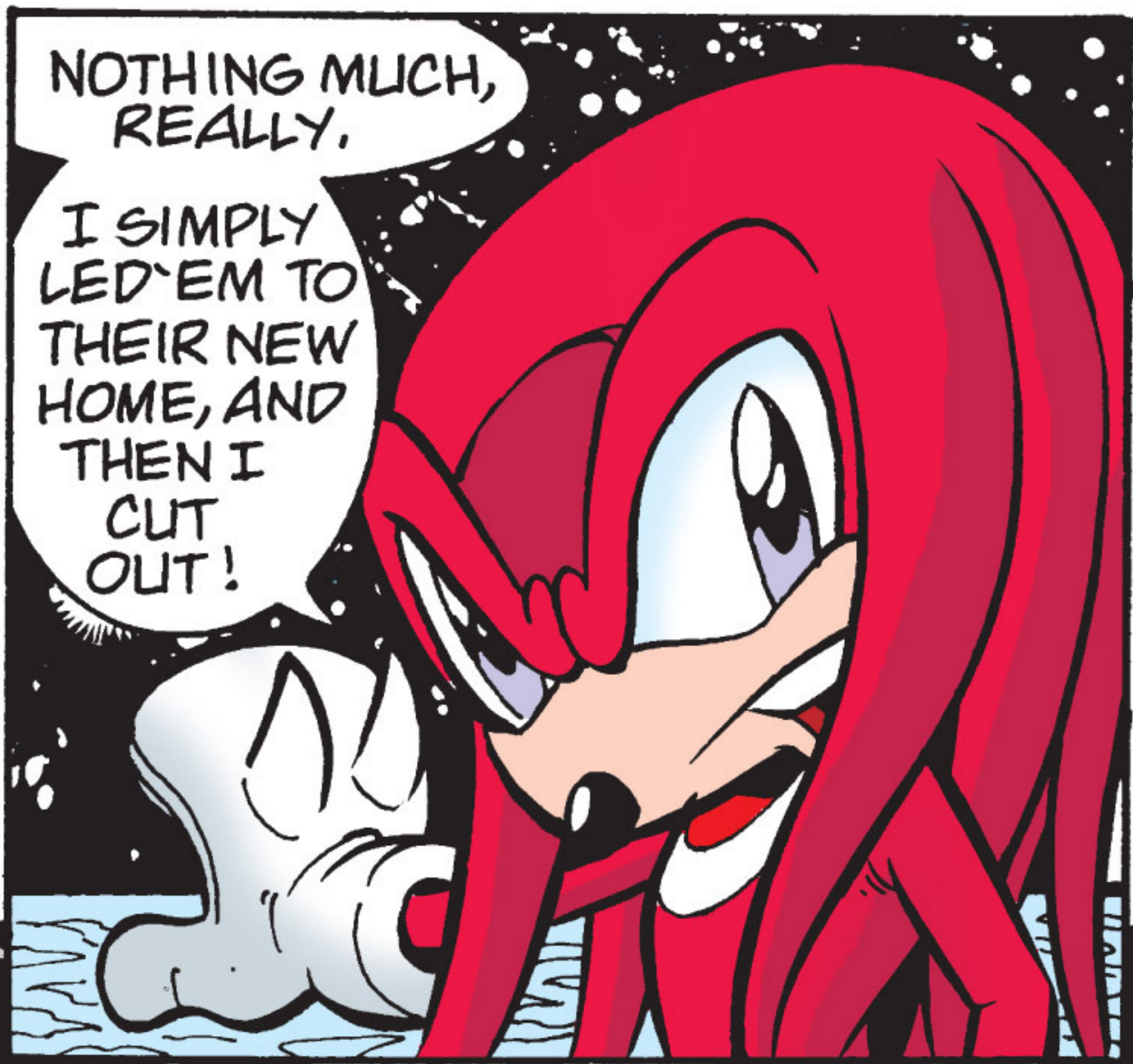
I THOUGHT YOU USUALLY STAY ON THE FLOATING ISLAND!

FRIEND KNUCKLES HERE WAS MAKING A HOLY PILGRIMAGE TO REUNITE A LOST TRIBE WITH THEIR KIN!

ALONG THE WAY, WE HELD HARD AND DEFEATED THE DREADED SHERIFF!

UNFORTUNATELY, WE NE'ER SANG OR CELEBRATED OUR GREAT VICTORY TOGETHER!

WHATE'ER DID BECOME OF YOU AFTER, MY FRIEND?



NOTHING MUCH, REALLY.

I SIMPLY LED 'EM TO THEIR NEW HOME, AND THEN I CUT OUT!



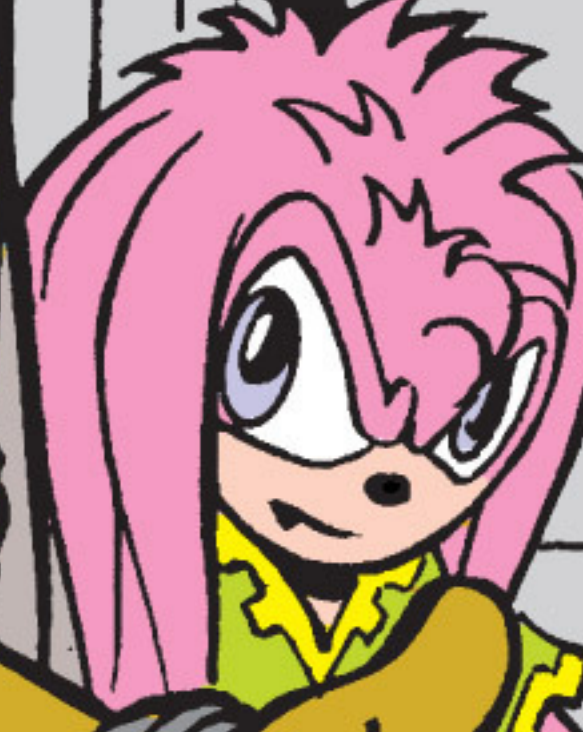
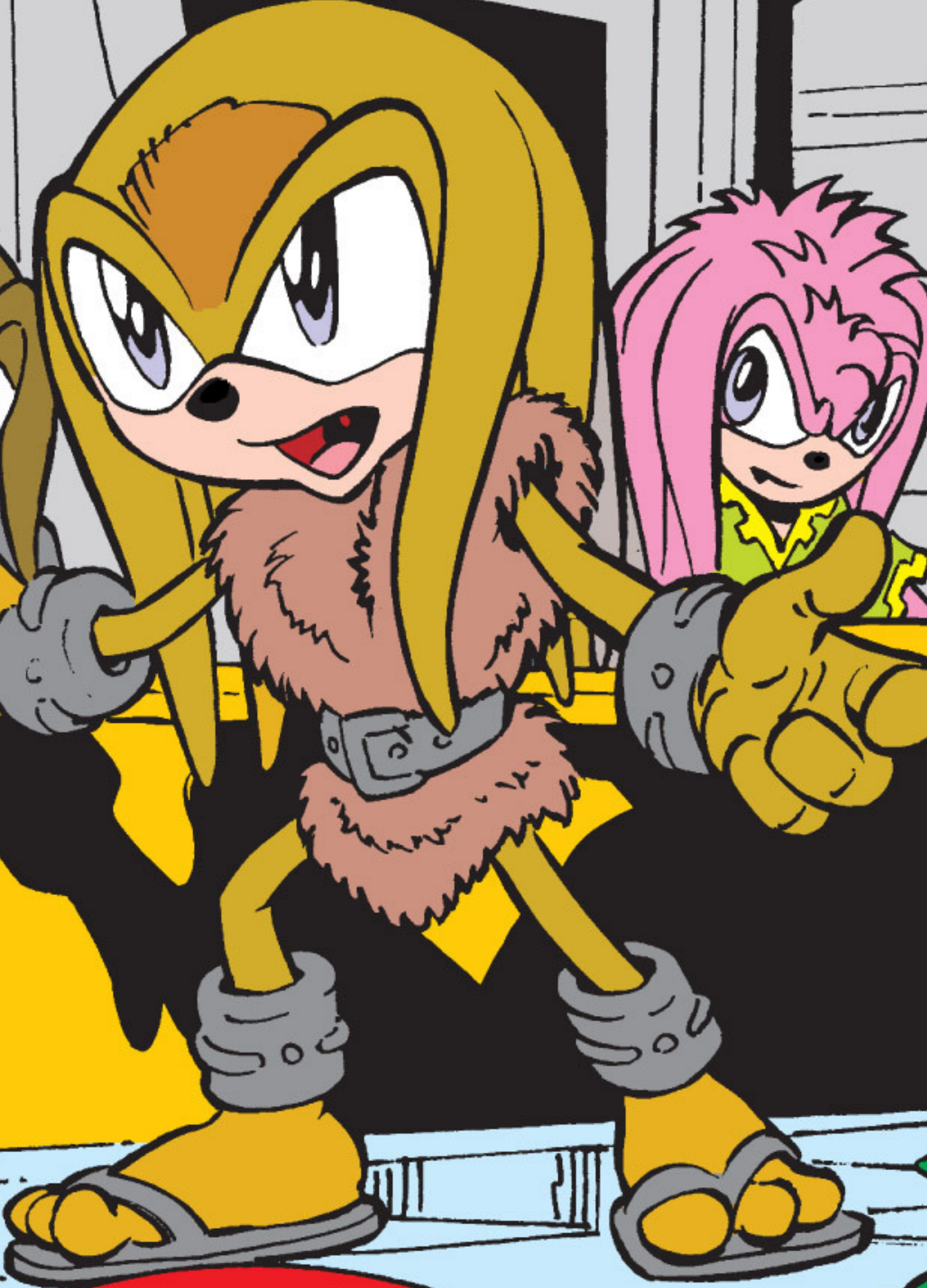
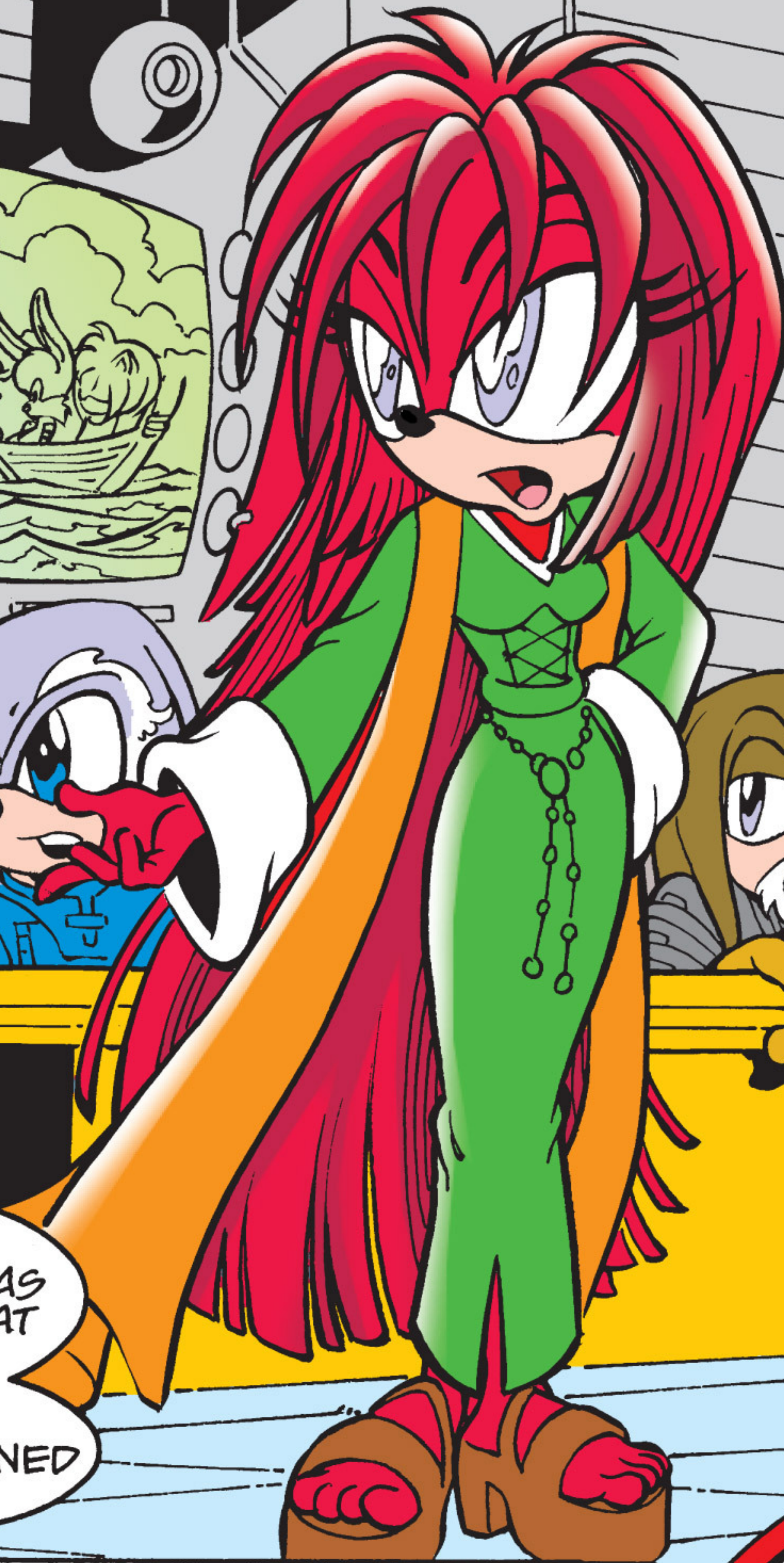
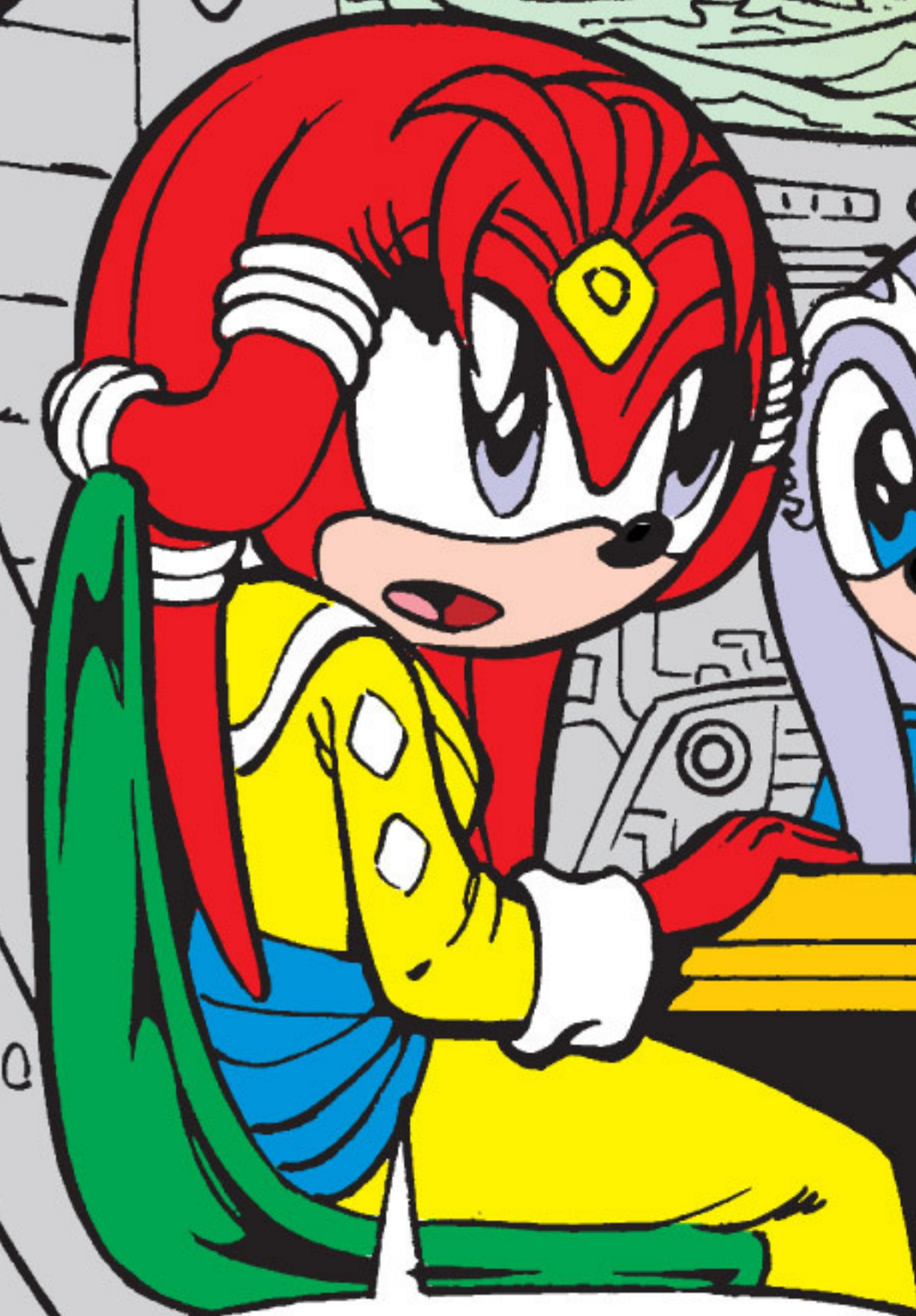
BUT WHY?

WEREN'T THEY YOUR KIND YOU WERE LEADING FRIEND YANAR AND THE OTHERS, TOO?



WHY, INDEED, DID ONE OF OUR OWN REJECT HIS HOMELAND?

HIS DUTIES LAY ELSEWHERE, COUNCILOR GALA-NA!



YANAR IS CORRECT! KNUCKLES WAS SIMPLY FOLLOWING WHAT HE WAS TAUGHT!
IT'S THE OTHERS I'M MORE CONCERNED WITH!

ROB O' THE HEDGE HAS ACTED AS OUR AGENT EVER SINCE THE DESPOT ROBOTNIK INSTALLED HIS LIEUTENANT WITHIN OUR SPHERE, COUNCILOR RITA-LI.

BUT NEITHER HE NOR ANY OUTSIDER HAS EVER TROD UPON OUR LAND!

UNTIL OUR RECENT GUEST, YOU MEAN!



I WOULDN'T EXACTLY CALL WHAT HE'S DOING TRODDING UPON OUR LAND!

BUT, IN CASE NONE OF YOU HAVE BEEN PAYING ATTENTION--



"--THE MALE COYOTE ABOARD BEARS A CONSIDERABLE RESEMBLANCE TO HIM!"

AS WE ENGAGED IN MORTAL COMBAT, THE FLAMES THAT BURNED THROUGHOUT SEPARATED US!

MINE EYES NEVER GAZED THE SIGHT OF HIM AFTERWARDS!

SO, WHAT CAN YOU TELL ME WHATEVER BECAME OF THE SHERIFF, MON AMI?

HOLD THAT THOUGHT, ROB--

--AS WE'VE JUST REACHED SHORE!

C'MON!

AND THE SHERIFF-- THERE WASN'T ANY WAY TO TELL--

--IF HE SURVIVED?

WE NE'ER CROSSED PATHS AGAIN--

--NOR HAS HE EXERTED ANY INFLUENCE O'ER MY ROBOTICIZED BAND SINCE!

MAYBE YOU GUYS WEREN'T THE ONLY ONES HE WAS A THREAT TO!

AND IF YOU HADN'T PUT HIM DOWN FOR THE COUNT--

--MAYBE
SOMEONE ELSE
DID!

I DIDN'T THINK
ANYONE KNEW I WAS
COMING!

WE KNOW
MORE THAN YOU
REALIZE!

HUH?!!
GALA-NA!!!

YOU EXCHANGE
NOTES WITH MY
RELATIVES?

WELCOME,
KNUCKLES!

IT'S GOOD
TO SEE YOU ONCE
AGAIN!

SADLY, NO. YOUR
FAMILY HAS ALWAYS BEEN
THE MOST INDEPENDENT
AMONG US!

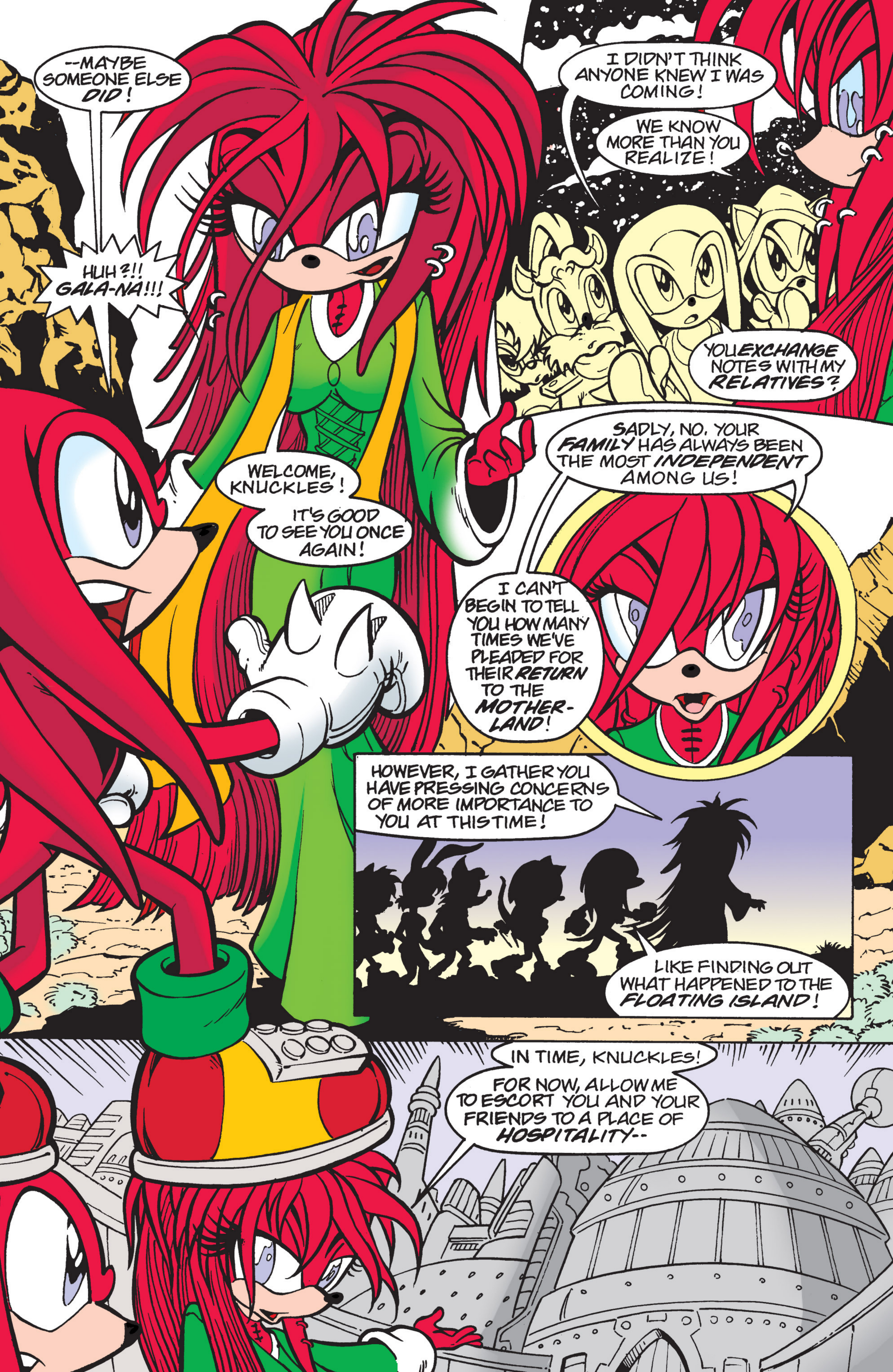
I CAN'T
BEGIN TO TELL
YOU HOW MANY
TIMES WE'VE
PLEADED FOR
THEIR RETURN
TO THE
MOTHER-
LAND!

HOWEVER, I GATHER YOU
HAVE PRESSING CONCERNS
OF MORE IMPORTANCE TO
YOU AT THIS TIME!

LIKE FINDING OUT
WHAT HAPPENED TO THE
FLOATING ISLAND!

IN TIME, KNUCKLES!

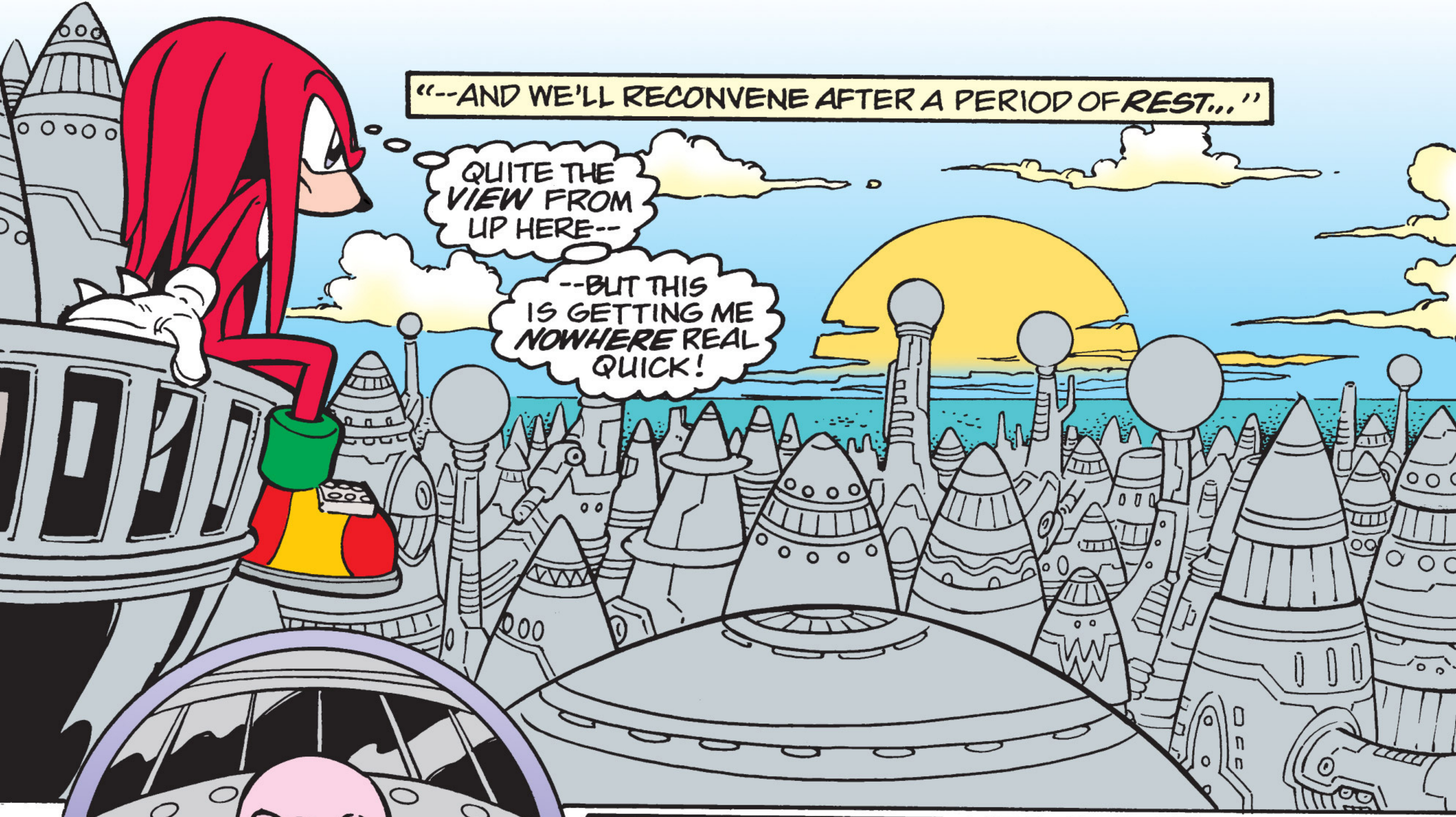
FOR NOW, ALLOW ME
TO ESCORT YOU AND YOUR
FRIENDS TO A PLACE OF
HOSPITALITY--



"--AND WE'LL RECONVENE AFTER A PERIOD OF REST..."

QUITE THE VIEW FROM UP HERE--

--BUT THIS IS GETTING ME NOWHERE REAL QUICK!



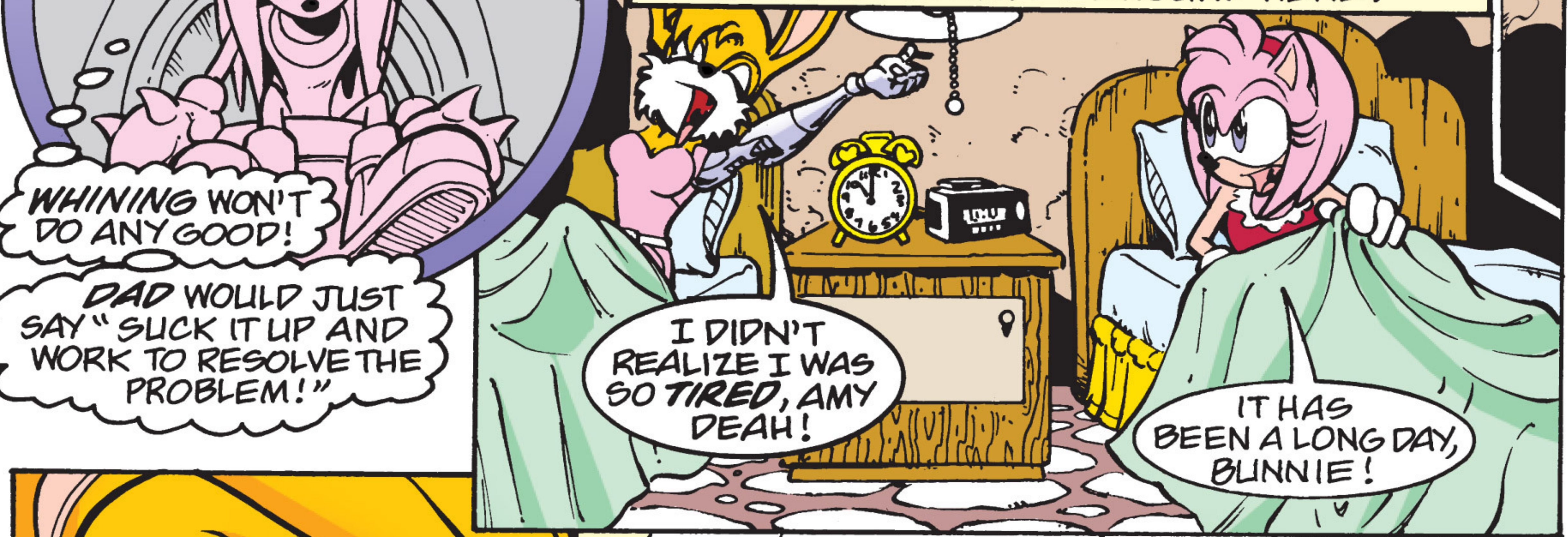
"I JUST GET THE FUNNY FEELING MY PROBLEM AIN'T THE PRIORITY AROUND HERE!"

WHINING WON'T DO ANY GOOD!

DAD WOULD JUST SAY "SUCK IT UP AND WORK TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEM!"

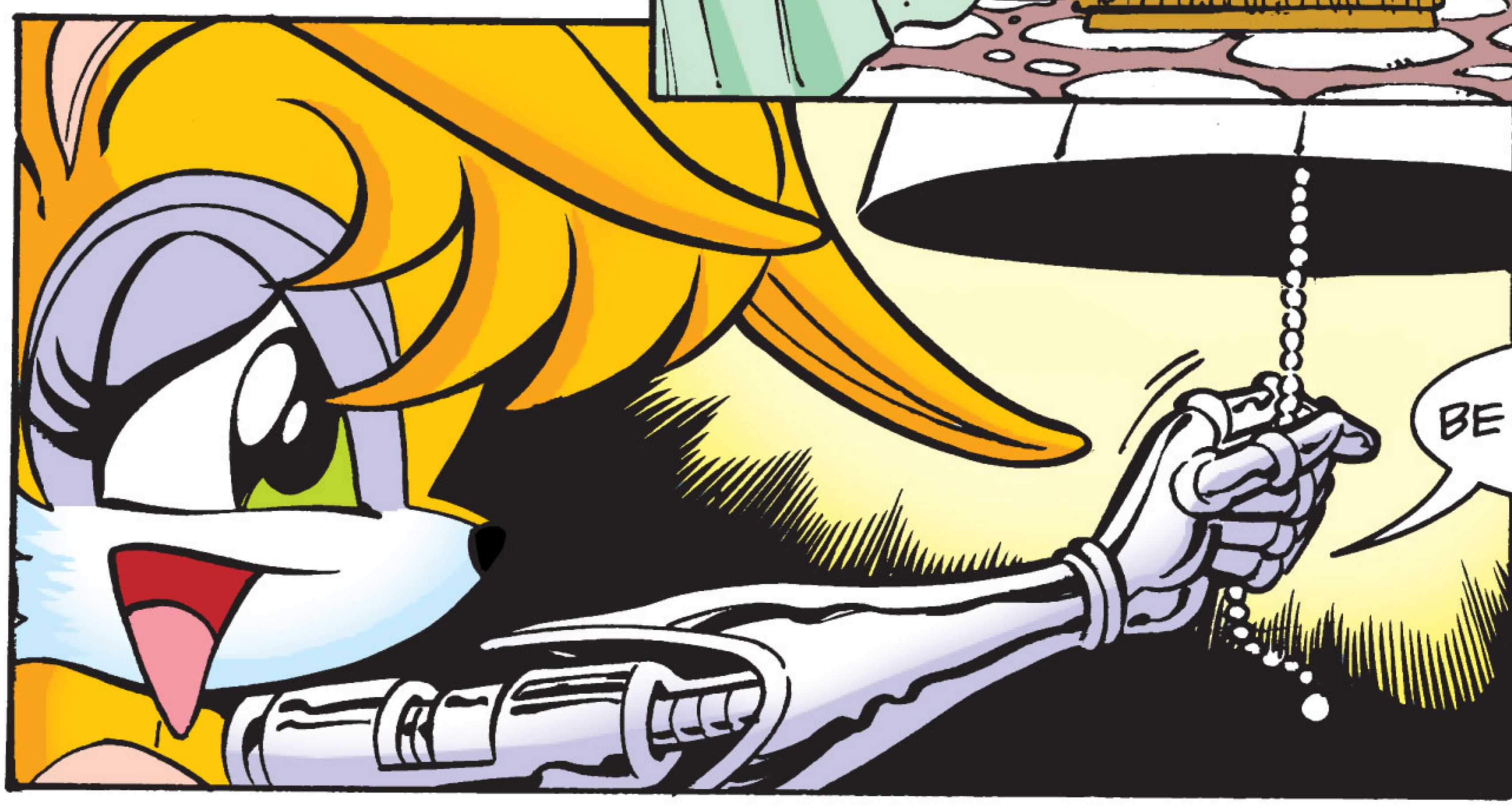
I DIDN'T REALIZE I WAS SO TIRED, AMY DEAH!

IT HAS BEEN A LONG DAY, BLINNIE!



GRAB SOME SHUTEYE, HON!

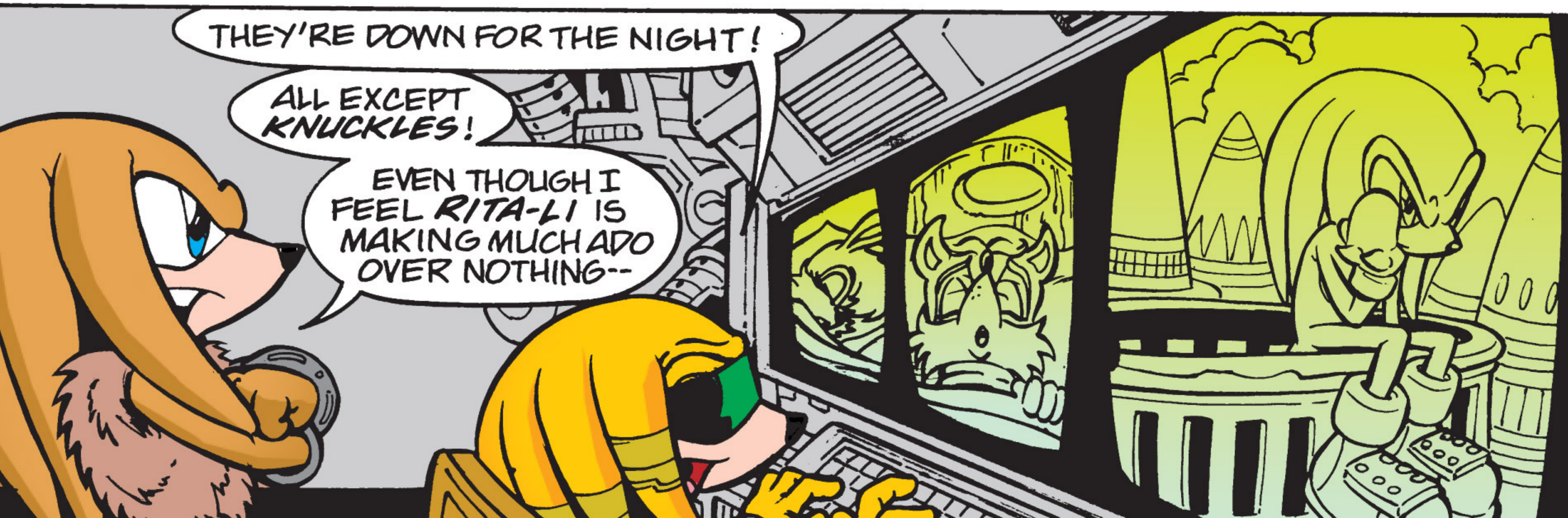
MORNING'LL BE HEAH BEFOAH YOU KNOW IT!

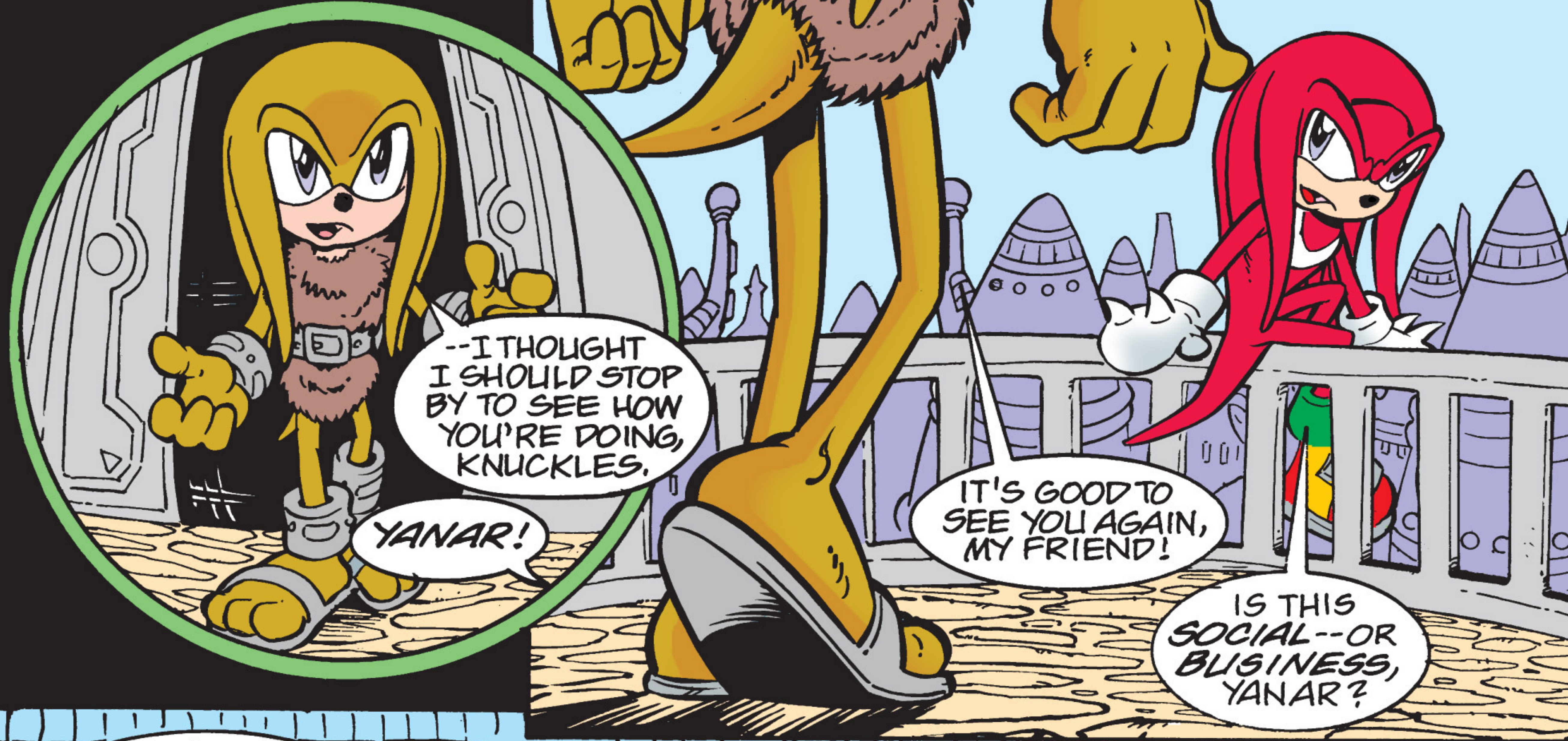


THEY'RE DOWN FOR THE NIGHT!

ALL EXCEPT KNUCKLES!

EVEN THOUGH I FEEL RITA-LI IS MAKING MUCH ADO OVER NOTHING--



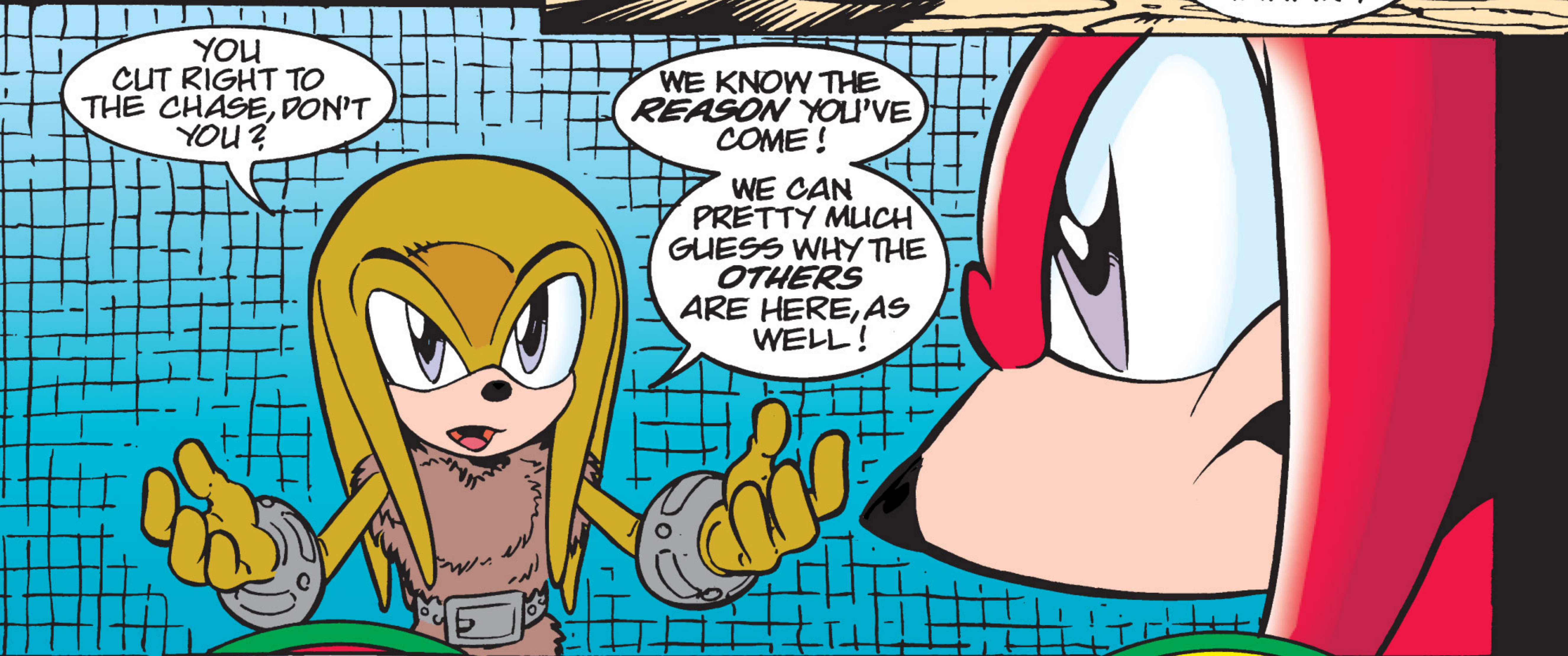


--I THOUGHT I SHOULD STOP BY TO SEE HOW YOU'RE DOING, KNUCKLES.

YANAR!

IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN, MY FRIEND!

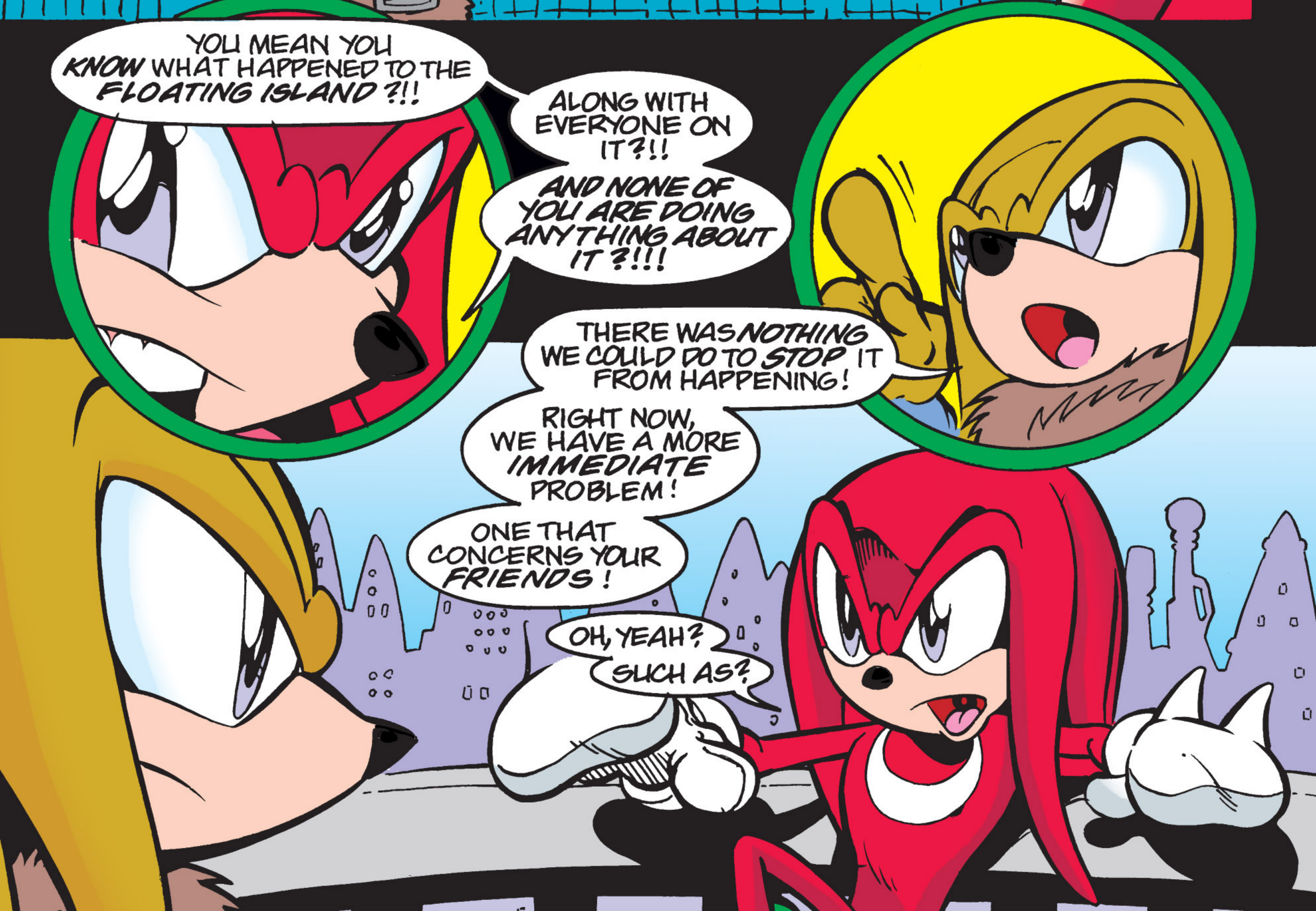
IS THIS SOCIAL--OR BUSINESS, YANAR?



YOU CUT RIGHT TO THE CHASE, DON'T YOU?

WE KNOW THE REASON YOU'VE COME!

WE CAN PRETTY MUCH GUESS WHY THE OTHERS ARE HERE, AS WELL!



YOU MEAN YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO THE FLOATING ISLAND ?!!

ALONG WITH EVERYONE ON IT?!!

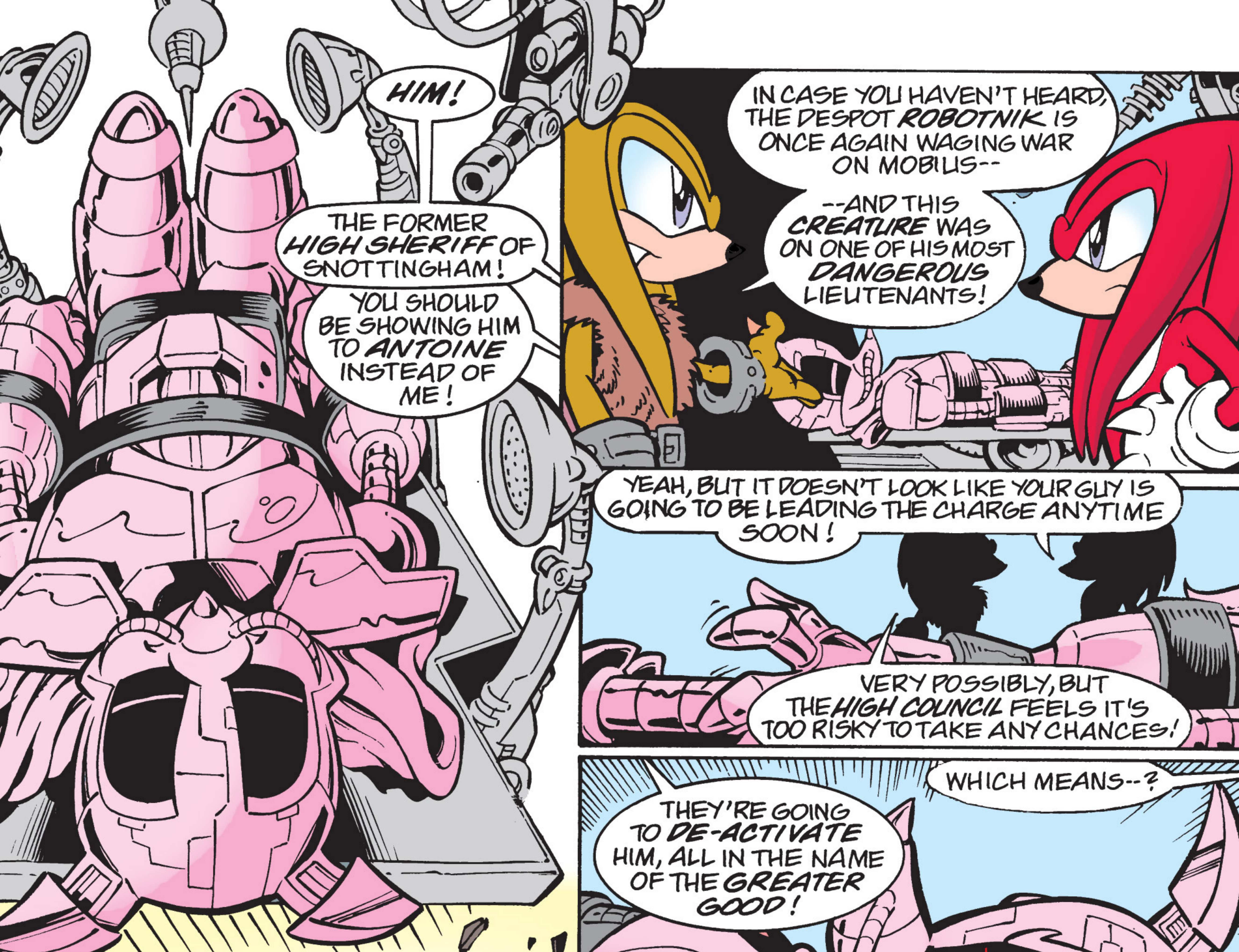
AND NONE OF YOU ARE DOING ANYTHING ABOUT IT?!!!

THERE WAS NOTHING WE COULD DO TO STOP IT FROM HAPPENING!

RIGHT NOW, WE HAVE A MORE IMMEDIATE PROBLEM!

ONE THAT CONCERNS YOUR FRIENDS!

OH, YEAH? SUCH AS?



HIM!

THE FORMER HIGH SHERIFF OF SNOTTINGHAM!

YOU SHOULD BE SHOWING HIM TO ANTOINE INSTEAD OF ME!

IN CASE YOU HAVEN'T HEARD, THE DESPOT ROBOTNIK IS ONCE AGAIN WAGING WAR ON MOBILIS--

--AND THIS CREATURE WAS ON ONE OF HIS MOST DANGEROUS LIEUTENANTS!

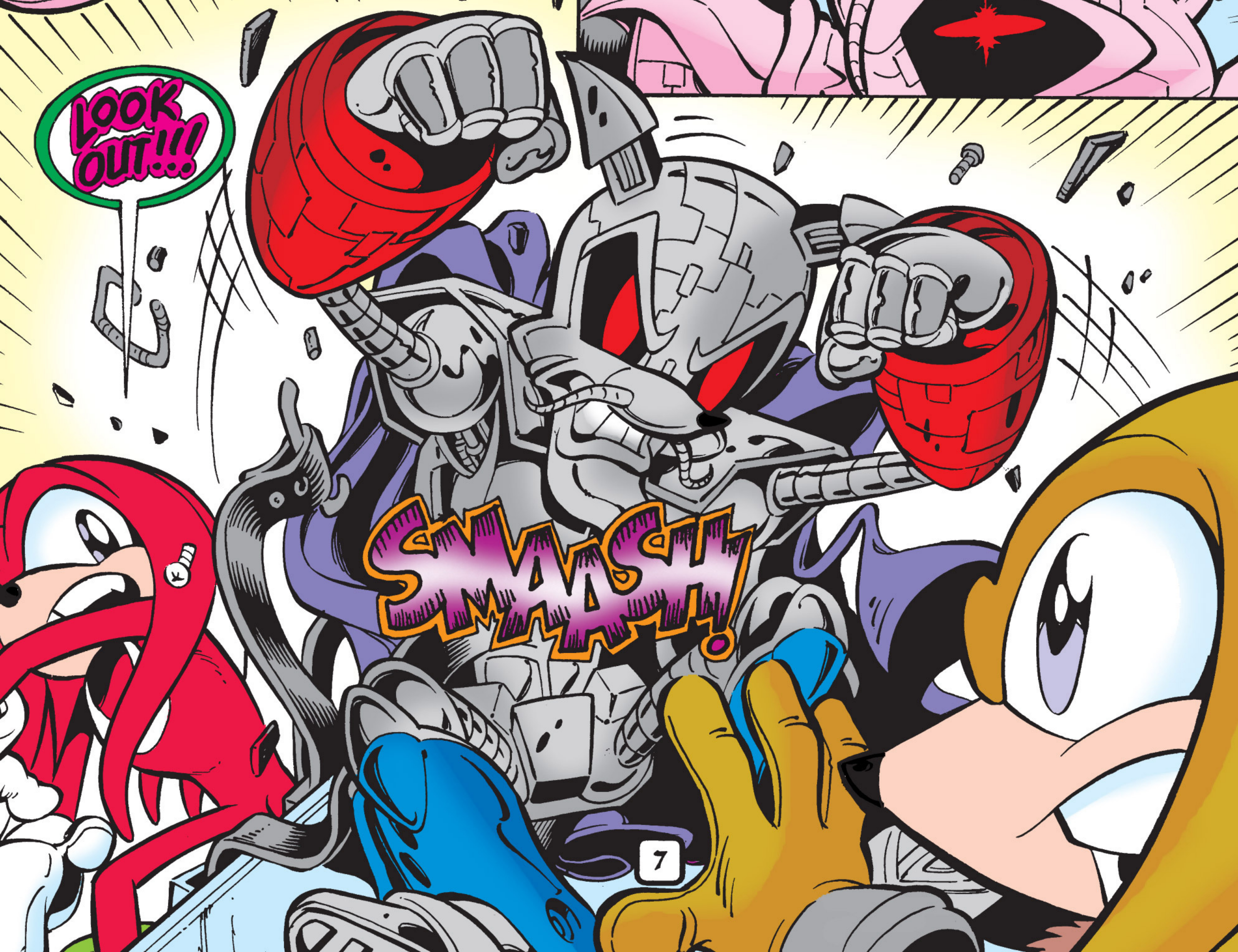
YEAH, BUT IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE YOUR GUY IS GOING TO BE LEADING THE CHARGE ANYTIME SOON!

VERY POSSIBLY, BUT THE HIGH COUNCIL FEELS IT'S TOO RISKY TO TAKE ANY CHANCES!

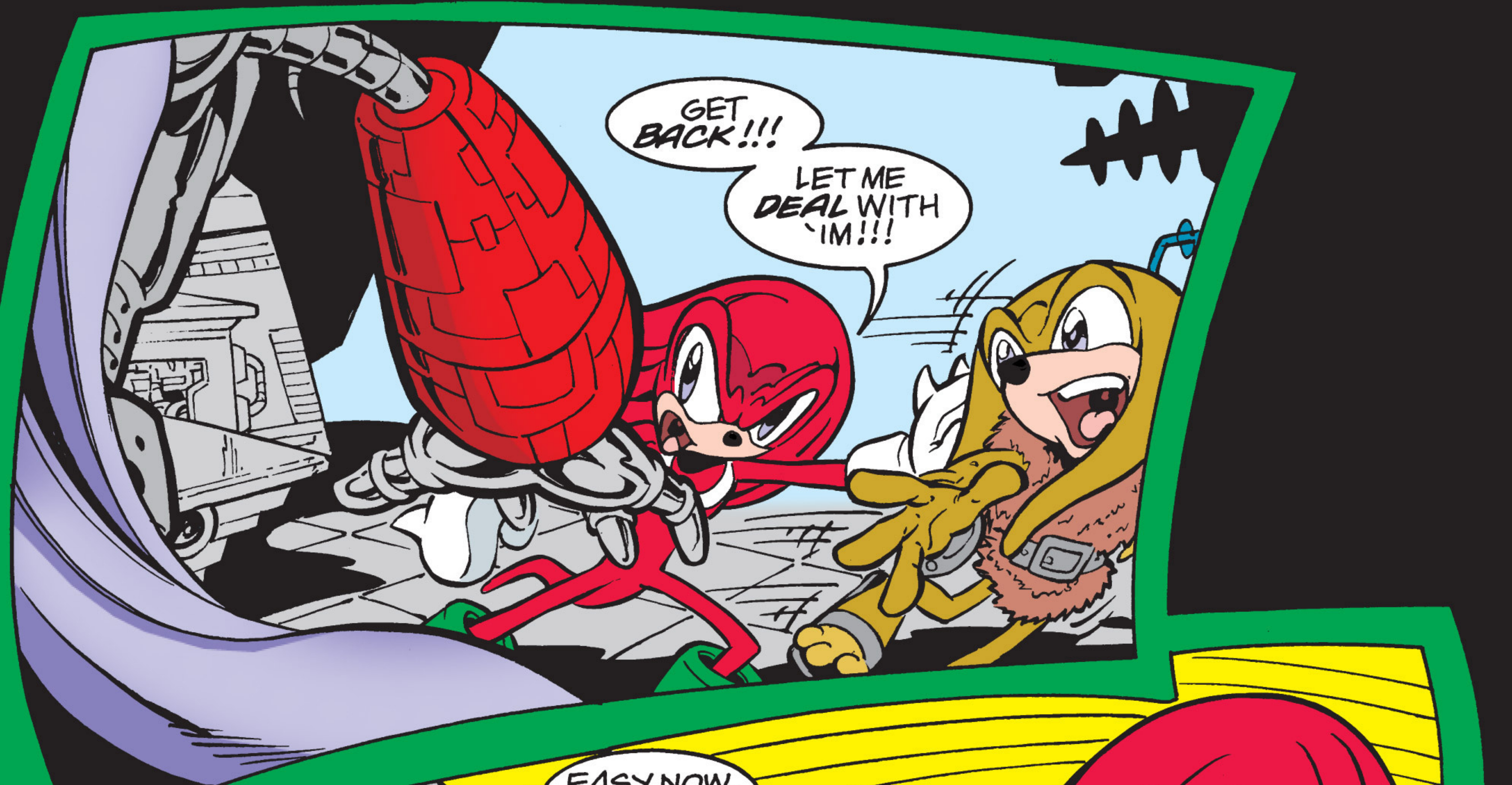
THEY'RE GOING TO DE-ACTIVATE HIM, ALL IN THE NAME OF THE GREATER GOOD!

WHICH MEANS--?

LOOK OUT!!!

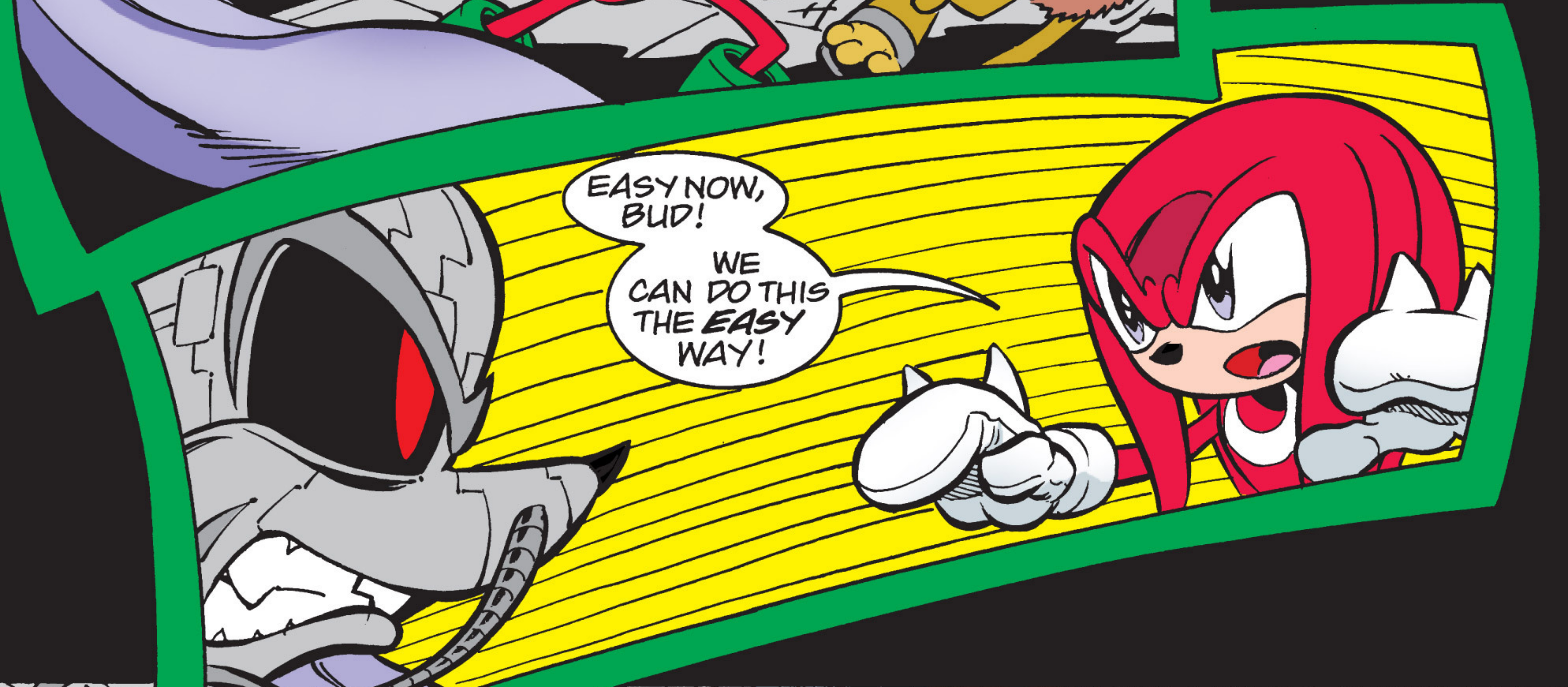


SWASH!



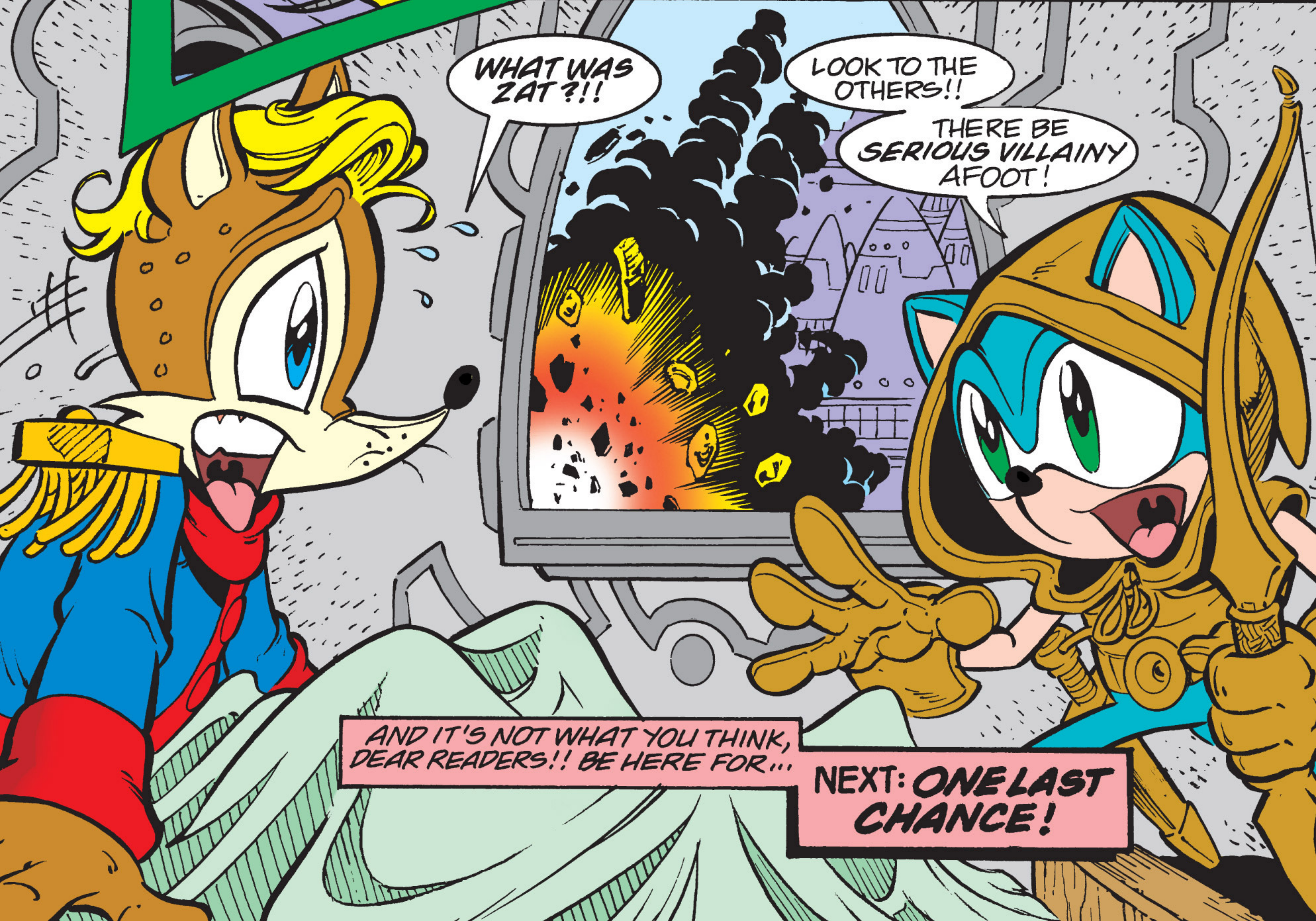
GET BACK!!!

LET ME DEAL WITH 'IM!!!



EASY NOW, BUD!

WE CAN DO THIS THE EASY WAY!



WHAT WAS ZAT?!!

LOOK TO THE OTHERS!!

THERE BE SERIOUS VILLAINY AFOOT!

AND IT'S NOT WHAT YOU THINK, DEAR READERS!! BE HERE FOR...

NEXT: ONE LAST CHANCE!